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Scene magazine

1

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Steroid scandal grows



Marion Jones

Bonds reportedly testified he used unknown substances; BALCO head says he saw Olympian Jones inject growth hormone



Barry Bonds

Page 47-Back page



Being prepared

Updating wills, legal papers can ease grief of loved ones

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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

Nation

BTK killings: A man whose arrest sparked speculation of a link to the decades-old Kansas BTK serial killings case was released on bond after a court appearance on two unrelated misdemeanor counts.

The man was arrested at his home Wednesday night on minor trespassing and housing code violations, and state police said his DNA was being tested to see if there was any link to the man sought for eight unsolved homicides between 1974 and 1986.

He appeared before Wichita Municipal Judge Jennifer Jones, who reduced his bond Thursday from \$17,500 to \$6,125 and ordered him to return to court next month. He then was released from jail.

Peterson trial: Scott Peterson's sister-in-law tearfully described the former fertilizer salesman as thoughtful and sincere to the 12 people who must decide his punishment for killing his pregnant wife, Laci.

Janey Peterson took the stand Thursday, the third day in the penalty phase of her brother-in-law's murder trial. She joined other family members and friends in trying to convince jurors that Peterson should not receive the death penalty for the 2002 murders of Laci and the 8-month-old fetus she was carrying. The other possible sentence for Peterson is life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Wash. governor's race: Washington's Democratic gubernatorial candidate — trailing her GOP rival by just 42 votes — on Thursday urged her party to order a statewide hand recount of all 2.8 million votes for governor, regardless of the cost.

"My request of the state Democratic Party is simple: Count the entire state or don't count at all," Christine Gregoire said in a statement released by her campaign office.

The recount costs at least 25 cents a ballot. The party said the cost of a full recount would exceed \$1 million. By late Thursday, the Democrats had about \$650,000 of the approximately \$750,000 deposit that would be required for a full recount by the 5 p.m. Friday state deadline, said Kirstin Brompt, the state party spokeswoman.

War on terrorism

Pfc. England court-martial: Prosecutors in the court-martial of Pfc. Lyndie England may use two statements she gave describing the posing of naked Iraqi prisoners as "joking around, having fun," a military judge has ruled.

Defense attorneys had sought to keep out



Courtesy Thomas T. Gushik

Fourth-graders at Matthew C. Perry Elementary School portray U.S. presidents and first ladies Friday for the Living Museum at Iwakuni Marine Corps Air Station, Japan. From left to right, Ashley Marlin (as Louise L. Adams), Dominic Cardella (as Abraham Lincoln) and Shelby Keating (as Eleanor Roosevelt) explain to fifth-grade pupils Olmar Aguila, Freddie Jones Jr. and Mia Lasyone who they are portraying and why that person is important.

the January statements, saying England was coerced by military interrogators who pulled her out of bed in the middle of the night, kept her in closed rooms for hours and failed to fully inform her of her right to have a lawyer present.

World

Kosovo's new prime minister: Kosovo lawmakers on Friday elected as prime minister a former rebel commander who recently was questioned by U.N. war crimes investigators.

The 120-seat parliament voted 72 votes to 3 for ethnic Albanian Ramush Haradinaj to head the new Kosovo government, ignoring concerns that the move could do to the province's tensions.

Members of the second-biggest party, the Democratic Party of Kosovo, led by another former rebel leader, abstained.

Russia spy trial: A Russian scientist who was sentenced last month to 14 years in pris-

on on charges of spying for China appealed to the Supreme Court to overturn his conviction, his lawyer said Friday.

Valentin Danilov, a professor at Krasnoyarsk State Technical University in Siberia, was found guilty of passing information to China and defrauding the university of \$15,500.

Nationwide gang sweep: Authorities arrested 224 street gang members during a weeklong sweep across Mexico, Interior Secretary Santiago Creel announced Thursday, charging the gang with running major drug and firearms trafficking operations in Mexico and some Central American nations.

Police said most of the suspects from the Mara Salvatrucha gang were from Central America, but did not specify their nationalities.

Creel said those arrested faced charges of illegal gang activity, organized crime, falsification of documents and illegal weapons possession.

Stories and photo from The Associated Press

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THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL

expires 12/11/04

Preparing for worst now saves grief later

By TERI WEAVER
Stars and Stripes

YONGSAN GARRISON, South Korea — If you're bored with the tried but true routine of New Year's resolutions such as losing 10 pounds or quitting smoking (again), military officials have another goal for your consideration: preparing for death.

It's not quite as gruesome as it sounds. Preparing for the loss of a loved one involves business decisions as well as emotional ones. Some forethought on those choices now can help ease the pain and confusion that comes after a death, financial officials and military lawyers say.

In fact, keeping legal papers and beneficiary information up-to-date should be as routine as filing tax returns or winterizing a car. Letting those details slide can mean unintended consequences, such as benefits going to an ex-spouse or omitting children from an inheritance.

"It's just horrible if they haven't kept their records up to date," said Kenneth L. Stark, who heads the civilian personnel office for Area II and recalls plenty of scenarios in which outdated records have prompted emotional family fights. "It's really something you need to think about."

It's also something that's convenient to do. The military offers free legal assistance, including wills and powers of attorney, to

Military planners offer help with wills, power of attorney

all active and retired servicemembers and to all Department of Defense workers and their family members.

Most experts advise reviewing wills and beneficiary lists at least once a year, or whenever there is significant change such as a marriage, death, birth, divorce, new job or new investment.

And deployment, certainly, should trigger a review of legal matters, said Capt. Robert Vedra, who heads Yongsan Garrison's legal assistance office.

"The most important thing is having a will," Vedra said, whose office processed more than 200 wills last year.

A will directs how assets should be distributed and names a guardian for children in case both parents or legal guardians die. In the case of married couples, Vedra advises two separate wills.

Inheritance designations can be as simple as naming a couple of heirs or contain more detailed instructions about leaving individual items and amounts to various people and charities. You don't have to make a list of all your belongings, or even all your bank accounts, and you don't have to update that information unless it involves a specific gift, Vedra said.

When most people draw up a

Keys to filling out a living will, Page 26

will, they also approve advanced medical directives. These documents — a living will and a durable health-care power of attorney — provide instructions for medical professionals and for friends and family, telling them what health care choices you want if you're unable to decide for yourself.

The legal office also can prepare powers of attorney. These are documents that allow other people to do specified tasks in your absence, such as sell property, withdraw money or make decisions for children in school.

Many servicemembers who deploy get powers of attorney. Vedra's office will handle them on a walk-in basis, though he requests that people schedule an appointment to prepare or revise a will. Contractors should call ahead to determine whether the free legal assistance is included in their company's contract with the government.

But a will can't do everything, Vedra warned. No matter what's in your will, any money in a

Thrift Savings Plan will go toward whomever is listed in the policy. It should be a concern, especially for younger soldiers, he said.

"They forget this is out there," he said. "And it's often the lion's share of what they leave behind."

Another part of that lion's share is often a Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance policy. If a soldier is contributing the maximum amount, the claim can be \$250,000. That money — along with a \$12,000 death gratuity that helps families pay for funerals — will go to the person designated on a Record of Emergency Data card, regardless of what a will says.

When that data card is out-of-date and the servicemember dies, then the military's hands are tied.

"We can only pay to whomever is on that data card," said Sgt. 1st Class Vicki Rutland, who is with the 175th Finance Command and has helped disburse soldiers' funds to families for 17 years.

"I have seen it so many times," she said. "Guess what? The ex-spouse is going to get the money."

In South Korea, the 8th Army Personnel Command keeps the emergency information. The Army uses the information to noti-

fy family members of a death as well as for financial reasons.

"Here, it's especially important because most of the spouses aren't here," said Maj. Julie Keller.

Another thing to think about, Keller pointed out, is to make sure family back home knows about family changes in South Korea.

"It's good to let your parents know you got married," she said. Soldiers can update their information at anytime, she said, by bringing copies of marriage, birth or divorce papers to their local personnel office.

There's another thing to consider when it comes to spouses, especially those who have non-U.S. citizenship: If the servicemember or civilian worker dies, will the spouse be able to move to the United States or even attend a stateside funeral? Keller suggested looking into visa requirements now, just in case.

Last week, William King II finally took the plunge and got a will. King, 21, of Hastings on Hudson, N.Y., has been in South Korea for three years but never had a will written for him.

So what prompted the planning? Good news, it turns out. He got married a couple of months ago, he said.

Email Teri Weaver at: weaver@pstrips.osd.mil

Law-enforcement trainer brings technique to Misawa

By JENNIFER H. SVAN
Stars and Stripes

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan — "Be like a bamboo, not an oak," says James Pae, instructing his students to be quick and agile on their feet.

With his bare hands, Pae can drop an opponent to the ground in the time it takes to flip a page in a book.

His fight mind-set, though, is one of com-

passion. "Subduing without causing harm to the person," he says.

After a week of intense martial-arts training with Pae, a handful of airmen, sailors and soldiers at this northern Japan base say they are more confident they could defend themselves without using a weapon.

"It's great," said Airman 1st Class Joel Thelen of Misawa's 35th Communications Squadron. "All the concepts are dead on. If you take any martial-arts training long enough, you're going to focus on these concepts."

Pae works for the department of aviation at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport. Since the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks, he has taught numerous law-enforcement officers at O'Hare his unique martial-arts style, based on "close quarters, empty-hand battle techniques."

"The idea is to subdue the assailant as quick as possible using the proper use of force," Pae said Friday during a break in class at the Potter Fitness Center dojo room. "We do not want to get into a boxing match."

"Close quarters" for an O'Hare law-enforcement officer might mean taking out an assailant on an airplane "where you have nowhere to go," Pae said.

For a servicemember pulling security detail, the training can instill the skill and confidence to not always "unholster your gun" or use deadly force in a hostile situation, Pae said.

Capt. Matthew Gibson, assistant operations officer with 35th Security Forces Squadron, invited Pae to teach his martial-arts approach to servicemembers who



PHOTOS BY JENNIFER H. SVAN/Stars and Stripes

Martial-arts instructor James Pae, left, demonstrates a move to Army Spc. Aaron Bossert at Friday's training session. Pae trains law enforcement officers at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport and was invited to Misawa last week to train a handful of airmen, sailors and soldiers in his hand-to-hand, close-quarters fighting techniques.

would benefit most from the training.

Twenty-four men and women from the U.S. Air Force, Navy and Army and the Japan Air Self-Defense Force trained with Pae last week, about eight hours a day for five days. Units that sent participants included 35th Security Forces Squadron; Misawa Naval Air Facility (master of arms); 35th Civil Engineer Squadron, fire and emergency services; 35th Communications Squadron; and 403rd Military Intelligence Detachment, an Army unit at Misawa.

These are "people that would most likely

find themselves in a situation that would be useful to them," Gibson said. "They represent some of the best, most motivated troops that we have."

The training was a rare opportunity to learn self-defense techniques on the job, he said. "Of the 24-person class, only about four have had some type of self-defense class sponsored by the military."

Pae, who as a young boy studied the kwon do at a South Korean Buddhist monastery, came to Misawa on his own dime, Gibson noted.

Email Jennifer H. Svan at: svan@pstrips.osd.mil



Staff Sgt. Lawrence McKnight holds down Senior Airman Billy Harden during a martial arts training session on Friday at Misawa Air Base, Japan.

Inconsistent disability decisions add to vets' stress

More than two years after congressional auditors scored it as a problem, the Department of Veterans Affairs still has no way to assess whether its 57 regional offices are consistent in deciding disability claims for veterans suffering from the same type and severity of impairment.

The Government Accountability Office, in recent briefings for two House subcommittees, said "VA cannot provide reasonable assurance that similarly situated veterans who submit claims for the same impairment to different regional offices receive reasonably consistent decisions."

In other words, where veterans live and file disability claims could impact disability ratings and thus their compensation.

The report urged VA to use data collected through a newly implemented information system, called RBA 2000, to identify "indications" of inconsistencies among regional offices in award and denial of benefits. Then, where inconsistency even appears to exist for specific impairments, VA should conduct "systematic studies" of claim decisions for the specific ailments. The auditors indicated this process could take several years.

The greatest inconsistencies occur with mental disorders such as post-traumatic stress disorder, he added.

"A lot of that has to do with how

MILITARY UPDATE

Tom Philpott

they interpret information," Reese said. "Some grant PTSD very liberally, using a broad and liberal interpretation of the law, a requirement" under Code of Federal Regulations guidelines. "In another region, it will be construed very narrowly."

Inconsistency in decision-making over PTSD is of particular concern now with so many soldiers and Marines exposed to trauma in Iraq. Mental health experts estimate that 15 to 17 percent of personnel serving tours there will return with symptoms of post-traumatic stress.

A study published in July in the New England Journal of Medicine, written by Dr. Charles W. Hoge and five medical colleagues, found "a significant risk of mental health problems" for ground forces in Iraq. It also found "important barriers" to their receiving mental health services, "particularly the perception of stigma among those most in need."

The study found lower incidence of PTSD among servicemembers sent to Afghanistan where combat has been less intense and troops are exposed to fewer bombings and ambushes by insurgents.

The VA had no immediate comment on the GAO finding but was preparing a statement for Congress. VA does not keep statistics on number of veterans receiving disability compensation for PTSD or other mental illnesses. It does keep data on users of VA health care.

The GAO, in its 2002 report,

blamed inconsistencies involving disability claim decisions on the need for reviewers to use their own judgment. VA acknowledges, the report said, "that in many cases two adjudicators of equal competence could review the same evidence but render different decisions, due to the difficult judgment often required."

Reese said VA officials are very aware of the inconsistency issue. Indeed, two recent VA task forces, one of which Reese served on, recommended corrective steps. None will take effect for a few more years.

To comment, write Military Update, P.O. Box 231111, Centerville, VA 20120-1111, e-mail: milupdate@va.gov or visit: www.militaryupdate.com

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Yokota, Sasebo kick off holiday festivities

Left: The annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony took place Friday at Yokota Air Base's West Chapel. The U.S. Air Force Band of the Pacific-Aisa and Yokota High School choir performed holiday songs.

Below: Amy Gallegos and her 1½-month-old son Eloy visit with Santa Claus at Sasebo Naval Base's Christmas in the Park Celebration on Friday night. Several hundred base and local community members enjoyed the festivities in Nimitz Park.



VINCE LITTLE/Stars and Stripes



GREG TYLER/Stars and Stripes

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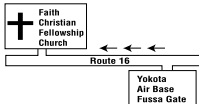
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Marines and JGSDF wrap up Active Shield

BY GREG TYLER

Stars and Stripes

Iwakuni Marine Corps Air Station personnel and the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force wrapped up the final exercise of Active Shield for 2004 on Thursday.

The training began Tuesday and involved about 100 of JGSDF's 13th Brigade, 46th Infantry Regiment troops and about 90 U.S. Marines, including Iwakuni's Station Security Reaction Team.

The exercise was the second segment of Active Shield this year, and the fourth overall, in the series designed to support Japan's Self-Defense Law. The law, revised in October 2001, makes the JGSDF responsible for protecting U.S. military facilities during contingency operations.

"From any point of view, I'd have to say the exercise went flawlessly," said Capt. Christopher Bushek, Iwakuni's provost marshal, by telephone Friday.

"As far as the general planning and execution, there were no problems," he said. "And if there is anything we are learning through these exercises that we could improve, I'd have to say it would be communication on the troop-to-troop level."

For instance, when operating in a hostage situation, as in last week's exercise scenarios, communication has more to do

with knowing exactly what to do than it does actual language, Bushek said.

"We can get past the language barrier. It's not really that much of a problem. What we are working on is knowing what we should do in particular situations," he added.

"It's about enhancing that familiarity," he said. "It's about knowing exactly what is being done, and exactly what happens next."

Iwakuni leadership is responsible for the emergency security and force protection training measures in "Base Cluster Four" of five such clusters in Japan.

Iwakuni also is responsible for protection of three U.S. military facilities in Hiroshima Prefecture, including an ammunition depot in Edajima.

"The individual bases participate at various times during the year in Active Shield," Capt. Rickelle Dowdell, a U.S. Forces Japan spokeswoman, told Stars and Stripes before the exercise.

The first Active Shield exercise took place in 2003 in Iwakuni, and a second was held in September at Hiroshima facilities with about 70 JGSDF troops and 20 U.S. service members.

"In 2005," Bushek said, "there will be two more. The dates and locations have yet to be designated, except that one of those will be here."

E-mail Greg Tyler at: tylerg@strips.com or osm11



ANTHONY ADAMSON/Courtesy of Iwakuni Marine Corps Air Station

During the Active Shield exercise at Iwakuni Marine Corps Air Station, Japan, on Thursday, the station's Special Reaction Team and Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force Rangers respond to a simulated hostage situation.

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2 Corinthians 3:17

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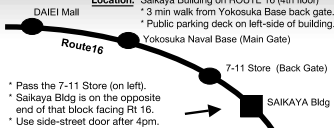
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Party to be held

Iwakuni Marine Corps Air Station's Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron will host a Christmas party for all squadron personnel and guests from 4 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. Friday at Hangar 291B near the disbursing office.

Participants need to bring identification cards.

Dinner will be served at 5 p.m. and Santa Claus will make an appearance to meet kids and give away door prizes.

Call DSN 253-5551 for more information.

Christmas tree sale

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — The annual Boy Scouts Christmas tree sale is under way on the top parking deck of Yokota's Community Center.

The native American evergreens will be sold through Dec. 24, with all proceeds benefiting Yokota's scouting programs. Stands also may be purchased.

The sale will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. each Saturday and Sunday.

YMS clothing drive

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — Yokota Middle School's Student Council is assisting in a Christmas clothing drive for the homeless people of Shinjuku's Chuo Park in Tokyo.

Organizers are seeking new items such as woolly hats, socks (thick for cold weather), gloves, underwear, hot packs, earmuffs and scarves. They hope to collect 300 gifts by Dec. 15. Recipients of the donations are typically men.

Wrap and deliver gifts to Room 104 at Yokota Middle School.

From staff reports

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U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Thursday at least 1,263 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 989 died as a result of hostile action, the Defense Department said. The figures include three military civilians.

The AP count is four higher than the Defense Department's tally, last updated on Thursday.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,125 U.S. military members have died, according to AP's count.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ One U.S. soldier died Wednesday in western Baghdad in a vehicle accident.

■ One U.S. soldier was killed Thursday while on patrol in Mosul.

The latest identifications reported by the military:

■ Marine Cpl. Zachary A. Kolda, 23, Corpus Christi, Texas, killed Wednesday in an attack in Anbar province; assigned to the Marine Reserves' 1st Battalion, 23rd Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division, Houston.

■ Army Spc. David M. Fisher, 21, Green Island, N.Y., died Wednesday in Baghdad when his vehicle rolled over; assigned to the Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 101st Cavalry Regiment, Newburgh, N.Y.

■ Army Spc. Erik W. Hayes, 24, Cascade, Md., died Monday in Fallujah when an explosive detonated near his vehicle; assigned to 2nd Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, Vicksburg, Germany.

■ Army Spc. Daryl A. Davis, 20, Orlando, Fla., died Monday in Iraq in a traffic accident; assigned to the National Guard's 144th Transportation Company, Marianna, Fla.

■ Marine Gunnery Sgt. Javier Obispo-Prado Pena, 36, Falls Church, Va., died Wednesday at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany, from injuries received Nov. 25 in an attack in Anbar province; assigned to 2nd Reconnaissance Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

■ Army Sgt. Pablo A. Calderon, 26, New York, and Army Sgt. Jose Guereca, Jr., 24, Missouri City, Texas, died Tuesday in Fallujah when an explosive detonated near their vehicle; assigned to 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

Insurgents kill 30 in series of Baghdad strikes

BY SLOBODAN LEKIC

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — In some of the worst violence in recent weeks in Baghdad, insurgents on Friday launched attacks against Iraqi security forces in the north and west of the capital, killing at least 30 people.

Coupled with running street battles in the northern city of Mosul that killed 11 rebels, the surge in violence appeared to indicate that militants still can stage attacks where and when they choose, despite major military campaigns — such as last month's occupation of the rebel-held city of Fallujah — aimed at quelling the insurgency.

A statement posted on an Islamic Web site in the name of Jordanian terrorist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, claimed responsibility for a daring raid on a police station in Baghdad and for attacks elsewhere in Iraq.

U.S. commanders and Iraq's interim authorities hope to boost security in the mainly Sunni areas of central and northern Iraq ahead of next month's national elections, following calls by prominent Sunni politicians who urged them to postpone the ballot in view of the escalating violence.

The visiting commander of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization expressed surprise Friday that the insurgency in Iraq had proved so resilient, in contrast to the situation in Afghanistan

where he said the security situation had improved significantly.

"I am very pleased with what is going on in Afghanistan ... but at the beginning I would have projected the opposite with Iraq coming along faster," Gen. James Jones said.

The apparently coordinated attacks in Baghdad began just before 6 a.m. local time, when 11 carloads of gunmen drove up to the police station in the city's western Amil district and attacked it with rocket-propelled grenades and small-arms fire.

Police Capt. Mohammed al-Jumaili said insurgents broke into the building killing 16 policemen, looting weapons, torching several cars and setting free about 35 detainees before melting away into the suburbs.

The claim from al-Zarqawi's group said 30 people were killed in the Amil attack and only two escaped.

"The destructive effect that such operations have on the morale of the enemy ... is clear," said the claim which could not be independently authenticated.

Later in the morning, in the Sunni Muslim stronghold of Azamiyah, a car bomb exploded at a Shiite mosque called Hameed al-Najar killing 14 people and wounding 19, hospital sources said.

Azamiyah was a major center of Sunni support for Saddam Hussein, and the targeting of the mosque may have been a bid by Sunnis to stoke sectarian strife in



U.S. troops inspect a site after a mortar landed in central Baghdad on Thursday. At least five mortar rounds exploded, including two in the Green Zone, the enclave that houses Iraq's interim administration and several foreign embassies.

the area.

But the imam of the nearby Sunni Abu Hanifa mosque immediately condemned the attack.

"Iraqi resistance has nothing to do with bombing mosques and churches and killing innocent people in markets and streets," Sheikh Ahmed Hassan Al-Taha said in a

sermon.

"The resistance [exists] to defend the country and liberate it."

Soon after the mosque bombing, a gunfire erupted between rebels and Iraqi government forces in the district. It lasted for about two hours, officers at the scene said.

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Sources: U.S.-run Afghan prisons weak on guidance

Classified papers reportedly cite similarities to facilities in Iraq

By R. JEFFREY SMITH

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — A recent classified assessment of U.S. military detention facilities in Afghanistan found that they have been plagued by many of the problems that existed at military prisons in Iraq, officials said this week, citing examples that include weak or nonexistent guidance for interrogators, creating what the assessment described as an "opportunity" for prisoner abuse.

The inspection, conducted this summer by a one-star Army general, has not been publicly released by the Defense Department. But three government officials privy to its conclusions said this week that Army Brig. Gen. Charles Jacoby had found a wide range of shortcomings in the military's handling of prisoners in Afghanistan, including an unwarranted use of rectal exams instead of metal wands to search for contraband.

Jacoby was ordered to conduct the survey in May by the top U.S. military commander in Afghanistan after the military's abuse of Iraqi prisoners became public knowledge. The government officials said Jacoby found that just half of the roughly two dozen U.S. prisons in Afghanistan had posted written orders spelling out approved interrogation practices.

The also said he found those practices in need of revision and better enforcement, according to the government officials. Lacking any approved guidance, U.S. military commanders in the field were using their own judgment about how prisoners should be handled, opening the door to abuse and a loss of valuable intelligence, the officials said Jacoby concluded.

At the time of Jacoby's visit, senior U.S. military officials in Iraq

and Washington had known for more than four months about photographic evidence of abused prisoners in Iraq. Senior U.S. military officers in the region had also known for more than five months about an Army report alleging abuses by a CIA-Special Operations Forces group in Iraq.

A spokeswoman for the U.S. military operation in Afghanistan, Lt. Col. Pamela Keeton, said



Jacoby

that while Jacoby did not find any instances of abuse underway during his visit, he did find that prison officers needed better military rules and training.

She said, for example, that before his inspection, prisoners could be held for indefinite periods at temporary prison facilities, where representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross had no access to them. Now, Keeton said, U.S. military rules bar the detention of any prisoner at a temporary prison for more than 10 days without release or transfer to a regular prison, and Red Cross representatives must be provided access within 15 days of their detention.

Keeton also said the practice of conducting invasive bodily searches among prisoners had been stopped in most cases. Efforts have also been made to curtail the number of temporary prisons in the field, she said. Jacoby's report suggested that the worst conduct may have occurred at such facilities.

Although the report represents the military's first attempt to survey the scope of prison shortcomings in Afghanistan, indications of widespread abuse there had turned up earlier this year, when Army investigators looked into mistreatment of prisoners at the Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq.

Many of the officials at Abu Ghraib had served in Afghanistan and honed their approach to handling prisoners there, according to two Defense Department reports issued in August. The reports said, for example, that the idea of using dogs to intimidate prisoners at Abu Ghraib migrated from Afghanistan, where U.S. soldiers noted that many citizens feared dogs; other methods transferred to Iraq included stripping prisoners, forcing them into stress positions, and depriving them of light, sleep or human contact.

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IN THE WORLD

Devastation from powerful storms grows in Philippines

BY OLIVER TEVES
The Associated Press

REAL, Philippines — Helicopters delivered food to famished survivors and picked up casualties as flash floods began to recede, revealing the magnitude of a disaster triggered by back-to-back storms that left more than 650 people dead and nearly 400 missing in the northern Philippines.

Soldiers who reached an isolated Pacific Ocean village reported finding about 100 dead. In the worst-hit town of Real, in nearby Quezon province, TV images showed bodies buried beneath mud and debris with only the soles of their feet jutting out.

Some 170,000 have fled their homes for higher ground. Health authorities urged local officials to bury the dead quickly to avoid disease.

President Gloria Macapagal Ar-

royo appealed to the nation to "come together ... (and) reach out to those who need help."

"We need one great heave to deliver the relief supplies, find the missing, rescue the isolated, feed the hungry and shelter the homeless," Arroyo said in a televised statement.

The United Nations sent a team of experts Friday to help the Philippines government "in assessing the extent of the damage and coordinating the international response to the disaster," U.N. spokesman Fred Eckhard said in New York.

He added that U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan was "profoundly saddened by the large-scale loss of life and destruction."

"The United Nations has been working closely with Philippine authorities in responding to needs created by the disaster and has made emergency cash grants

available for the purchase of relief supplies," Eckhard said.

The brunt of the devastation was wrought by a tropical storm that blew through northeastern provinces late Monday, killing at least 527 people, military Chief of Staff Gen. Efren Abu said Friday.

Hardest hit was Quezon province, where 484 bodies have been recovered and 352 people were still missing, he said.

Typhoon Namadol then struck the same region late Thursday.

While Quezon province bore the brunt of the storms, about 100 people were found dead in Dumaguete, about 60 miles northeast of Manila, Maj. Gen. Romeo Tolentino told ABS-CBN TV. It was unclear where they died in Monday's storm or the typhoon.

The typhoon claimed at least 30 lives in Aurora province, including 25 in a landslide, the Office of Civil Defense reported.



Two Philippine soldiers pass along an infant to the other end of the line at a landslide site Friday, as the typhoon-ravaged town of Real, east of Manila, remained isolated. More than 600 people had been killed by Friday, with nearly 400 still missing, officials said.

In Real, Mayor Arsenio Ramalosa said there was little damage from the typhoon, but that the Monday storm left scores of dead and missing.

"We have been severely devastated," he said. "Our food supply is dwindling and good for only an-

other three days."

He said a building at a beach resort, where about 100 people sought shelter during the storm, collapsed when it was hit by a landslide. Most of the people were still buried, but one man was excavated alive early Friday, he said.

Protest marks 20th anniversary of Bhopal gas leak

BY NIRMALA GEORGE
The Associated Press

BHOPAL, India — Twenty years after a cloud of deadly gas savaged this central Indian city, about 1,500 survivors and their supporters marched to the gates of a former Union Carbide plant on Friday, demanding justice for those still suffering the effects of the world's worst industrial disaster.

Another group of protesters staged a mock funeral procession for Warren Anderson, who was Union Carbide's chief execu-

tive at the time. A straw-filled effigy of Anderson was later set aflame.

"Never again should a Bhopal happen anywhere in the world," Balkrishna Nandev, a rights activist, told the crowd outside the abandoned pesticide plant in Bhopal. "However long it takes, our struggles to get justice will go on."

The factory leaked 40 tons of poisonous gas on Dec. 3, 1984, killing at least 10,000 people and affecting more than 555,000 others, although the exact number of victims has never been clear.

Many died over the years due to gas-re-

lated illnesses, like lung cancer, kidney failure and liver disease.

"Don't forget the victims of the genocide in Bhopal" and "Death to Dow!" the protesters shouted. Their banners carried similar slogans, accusing Union Carbide and Dow Chemical Co. of inadequate compensation and medical help for the victims.

Michigan-based Dow Chemical bought Union Carbide Corp. in 2001.

Union Carbide paid \$470 million in compensation under a settlement with India's government in 1989. But much of the money has been tied up by bureaucratic

and legal issues and many people have received little or nothing.

The protesters also called on Dow Chemical to clean up the plant site, where rusted pipes and pesticide storage tanks have collapsed or ruptured in the years since.

Union Carbide insists the disaster was due to sabotage by a disgruntled employee and not shoddy safety standards or faulty plant design, as claimed by many activists.

Union Carbide said in a statement that it spent more than \$2 million to clean up the plant from 1985 to 1994, when it sold its stake in Union Carbide India Ltd.

Ukraine election results ruled invalid

KIEV, Ukraine — The Supreme Court declared the results of Ukraine's disputed presidential run-off election invalid on Friday and ruled that the run-off should be repeated on Dec. 26, bringing cheers and fireworks from tens of thousands of opposition supporters massed in Kiev's main square.

The ruling, made after five days of hearings by the court's 18 justices, was a major victory for opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko, who had rejected the government's demands that an entirely new elec-

tion be held.

The opposition had pinned its hopes on the court's ruling in its bid to overturn the results of the Nov. 21 run-off vote in which Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich was declared the winner. The opposition said the vote was rigged to cheat Yushchenko of victory.

"Today Ukraine has turned to justice, democracy and freedom," Yushchenko told the throng of supporters who have packed the capital's Independence Square for 12 days. "It happened thanks to you."

From The Associated Press

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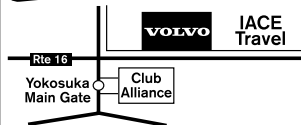
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Thai premier pushes an odd peace gesture

BY PETER FRITSCH
The Wall Street Journal

TAK BAI, Thailand — This Buddhist kingdom's often irascible premier, Thaksin Shinawatra, has obtained an unusual effort to pacify a restive Muslim minority: All good Thais will now help a nation in need and please make origami birds.

A flock of at least 63 million cranes — one gentle Japanese-style water bird of folded paper for each Thai man, woman and child — will fly to the Muslim-dominated south on Thai air force planes on Sunday, the birth-

day of the country's revered King Bhumibol.

If all goes according to plan and postal authorities can pull off this mass migration, the bomb bay doors will open and a symbolic payload of peace will flutter to Allah's grateful children below.

Thaksin put his population up to this crafty exercise last month as a gesture to heal the wounds of Thailand's southernmost provinces — long a troubled region dominated by Muslims. More than 500 people there have been killed this year in violence among Muslims, Buddhists and police. According

to Japanese tradition, paper cranes bring peace and hope to those who lay eyes on them.

"It's like, 'Tie a Yellow Ribbon Round the Old Oak Tree,'" explains Pansak Vinyarat, Thaksin's chief adviser.

On the ground down south, however, many see a cynical effort to paper over a hard government line against alleged separatists among the Muslim minority. "These birds will mean nothing to the people here, even if you made them out of paper money," says Hama Mayunu Abdul, a Muslim civic leader who runs a chain of

tiny radio stations in Narathiwat. "Don't they know that Muslims cannot worship symbols, only Allah?"

That isn't stopping many Thais, especially those drawing a government paycheck. Some 10,000 troops, hundreds of thousands of students and health-ministry volunteers have been folding birds with single-minded devotion. Officials say they have 80 million cranes to drop on the region's roughly 5 million Muslims.

"I've made dozens of birds myself," says 52-year-old Sangworn Thongmaeng, looking up from behind an information desk

swamped with donated cranes at Bangkok's Lak Si central post office. "It's my duty to send good wishes to the south," adds Pattaraporn Suntornvasu, a producer for state-run Parliament Radio.

Even Thaksin's cabinet folded birds while transacting the people's business one day recently. Thaksin proudly autographed his creation, promising the lucky person who finds it a scholarship or a government job.

"This just goes to show you this government is at its wit's end with the situation in the south," says opposition senator Kraisaak Choonhavan. "It's policy is to depend on repression — and litter."



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Moving on: Jenkins cleared to leave Zama

The Associated Press

TOKYO — Charles Robert Jenkins, who lived in North Korea for nearly 40 years after deserting his U.S. Army post, has completed the necessary paperwork and is free to leave the military base where he has been staying since his release from prison last week, a U.S. Army spokesman said Friday.

"At this time, Pvt. Jenkins and his family are free to depart Camp Zama and go on with their lives," said Lt. Col. John Amberg.

Amberg said Jenkins completed the outprocessing procedures Thursday night. He said it was up to Jenkins when he would actually leave the base.

A U.S. military court sentenced Jenkins to 30 days in jail last month for abandoning his unit to cross into North Korea 39 years ago. The sentence was reduced for good behavior, and he was released last Saturday after serving 25 days.

Jenkins, a native of Rich Square, N.C., said he fled his Army post in South Korea on Jan. 5, 1965, because he feared he would be reassigned to combat in Vietnam. He planned to defect to the Soviet Embassy in North Korea's capital, Pyongyang, and eventually make his way back to the United States.

Jenkins told The Associated Press last week that he intends to settle down in Japan with his Japanese wife, Hitomi Soga, and their two daughters, both of whom were born in North Korea. Soga was kidnapped from her Japanese hometown by North Korean agents in 1978, and married Jenkins in the North two years later.

Soga and four other abductees were allowed to return to Japan two years ago after North Korean leader Kim Jong Il admitted his country had kidnapped 13 Japanese citizens to obtain teachers of



U.S. Army deserter Charles Jenkins, left with cane, his wife, Hitomi Soga, center, and their daughters Belinda, right, and Mika, are shown in July this year. Now a free man after serving 25 days in prison for deserting his post, Jenkins says he'll settle with his family in Japan.

Japanese language and customs for their spies.

After a flurry of diplomatic negotiations, Jenkins joined her here in July, and turned himself in to U.S. military authorities on Camp Zama, just south of Tokyo, on Sept. 11.

A support group for Soga and other kidnapping victims said Jenkins would probably not leave Camp Zama until next week.

Reunited, Jenkins and family plan to resettle on Japanese isle of Sado

By AUDREY MACVOY

The Associated Press

SADO, Japan — U.S. Army deserter Charles Jenkins' new home sits nestled on a quiet lane of single-story wooden houses next to a farm. A small patch of tomatoes and red peppers lines the edge of the property.

After 39 years of constant surveillance in totalitarian North Korea and a month in a U.S. military prison for deserting his Army unit, the only people around to watch Jenkins on this wind-swept isle of mountainous forests and rice paddies will be his Japanese wife and their two daughters.

Plus maybe a neighbor or two.

"He's very welcome," grinned Seiji Chitomo, a 77-year-old cabinet salesman who lives across the street from Jenkins' father-in-law. "We're glad to have him."

Jenkins' arrival on Sado, expected next week, will bring an end to a Cold War saga that has generated an outpouring of sympathy in his wife's homeland and a rare, at times shocking, glimpse into the ways of one of the world's most reclusive regimes.

Freed last weekend after serving 25 days in a U.S. military prison for deserting the Army and defecting to North Korea in 1965, Jenkins, 64, said he is ready to resettle with his wife in Japan.

It will fulfill a long-held wish of his wife. Communist agents abducted the then 19-year-old Hitomi Soga in 1978, bundling her into a black bag they loaded on a boat bound for North Korea. The North allowed her to come home two years ago, but left her waiting in anguish to be reunited with Jenkins and her daughters Mika, 21, and Belinda, 19, who stayed behind in North Korea.

To greet the newcomers to the island of 70,000 people, city hall has prepared signs in Korean and Japanese and planned to present the reunited family with flower bouquets.

"She was so lonely. It's great the four of them can at last live together," said Machiko Goto, a 62-year-old housewife and neighbor of Soga's. "I hope they get used to life here."

It will be a different life for sure.

Jenkins told a U.S. military court-martial earlier this year that he and three other American soldiers lived under con-

stant surveillance in the North for at least seven years. They had to scrounge for food and study the works of "Great Leader" Kim Il Sung for up to 16 hours a day and suffer frequent beatings.

"I longed to leave that place every day," Jenkins said. "Sado will be a world apart — not only from North Korea but much of Japan."

Separated from the main Japanese island of Honshu by rough seas, Sado is so remote it once served as a traditional place of exile for politicians and a penal colony. The Kamakura shogun banished Emperor Juntoku here in 1221 for inciting a revolt.

Today, the island offers tourists hot springs, and provides traditional craftsmen and musicians with a haven far from the hectic pace of the big city.

"We have clean air, and lots of nature," said Kimiko Doko, a 52-year-old supermarket clerk. "Jenkins will be fine."

Its remoteness, however, may have also made the island a favored target of North Korean agents who sneaked up on Japanese shores in the 1970s and 1980s to kidnap people to serve as language teachers for their spy program. Agents also wanted Japanese so they could assume their identities.

Soga only emerged from behind the secretive veil of North Korea in 2002 when leader Kim Jong Il admitted his country had kidnapped 13 Japanese, and said Soga and four others were still alive.

Soga's mother remains missing, and North Korea said she never entered the country. Villagers say the mother's absence will mean Soga will still get closure despite Jenkins' arrival.

Then there is the matter of solving how she was abducted. Shingo Nishimura, a lawmaker with the opposition Democratic Party, grilled government officials in Parliament Thursday about suspicions a Japanese collaborator may have helped North Korea agents in Soga's kidnapping.



Jenkins



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IN THE STATES

Thompson leaves HHS post; Kerik picked to replace Ridge

BY RON FOURNIER

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson resigned Friday, warning of a potential global outbreak of the flu and health-related terror attacks. "For the life of me, I cannot understand why the terrorists have not attacked our food supply because it is so easy to do," he said.

Thompson, the eighth member of President Bush's 15-member Cabinet to resign since the Nov. 2 election, said he tried to leave office a year ago, but stayed through Bush's re-election campaign at the request of the White House.

"It's time for me and my family to move on to the next chapter in our life," he said.

News of his departure came not long after Bush introduced former New York City police commissioner Bernard Kerik as Tom Ridge's successor to be secretary of homeland security.

As for Thompson's successor, the secretary had not yet stepped before the microphones when officials said Mark McClellan, the Medicare chief and brother of White House press secretary Scott McClellan, was Bush's likely choice to take over the sprawling HHS bureaucracy.

Thompson said McClellan would make "a great secretary." But he also dropped the names of several other potential candidates, including former House Speaker Newt Gingrich.

Thompson listed accomplishments of his tenure but also said he worries about a worldwide flu pandemic in an era when vaccine is in short supply.

Thompson, who served 14 years as Wisconsin governor, said he plans to explore private-sector jobs and expressed an interest in advancing health care causes across the globe. He also didn't rule out a return to elective office.

"That's entirely possible. I happen to love politics. Why would I say no? There's a Senate seat open," he said. Democratic Sen. Herb Kohl's term expires in 2006.

Thompson said he intends to serve until Feb. 4 or until the Senate confirms his successor.

As for Bush's homeland security nominee, Kerik is the former military man who helped New York get back on its feet after the Sept. 11 terror attacks and also trained Iraqi police.

"Bernie Kerik is one of the most accomplished and effective leaders of law enforcement in America," Bush said at the White House, standing at his nominee's side.

Kerik said what he witnessed in the days after the attacks would be etched in his mind if he were confirmed to lead the department. "I know what is at stake," he said.

"Both the memory of those courageous souls and the horrors I saw inflicted upon our proud nation will serve as permanent reminders of the awesome responsibility

you place in my charge," he said.

Bush also lost his ambassador to the United Nations, John Danforth, who is retiring.



Former New York City Police Commissioner Bernard Kerik, left, speaks Friday after President Bush announced he will replace Tom Ridge as secretary of homeland security.

AP

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Bush pushes for deal on intelligence bill

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush told lawmakers Friday he is working as hard as possible to strike a deal on legislation to implement the Sept. 11 commission's recommendations on how to make the country safer from terrorist attack.

Bush told House and Senate members at the White House that "he's working on it as hard as he

can," said Sen. Mike Enzi, R-Wyo., who briefed reporters after the session. "We've talked to other people who are working on it, progress is being made, and we hope that it can be finished up [next] week."

The president's task may have been made easier on Thursday when the nation's top military officer said lawmakers had adequately addressed a provision in

the bill that he had objected to publicly.

Two influential House lawmakers — Armed Services Committee Chairman Duncan Hunter, R-Calif., and Judiciary Committee Chairman James Sensenbrenner, R-Wis. — were still opposing legislation that would create a national intelligence director and a national counterterrorism center to face terrorist threats.

Negotiators are working down to the wire in hopes of getting an agreement so the House can vote Monday. If the House goes ahead, the Senate could act Tuesday and send the legislation to the White House for Bush's signature.

The president on Thursday called House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., and Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., and told them he wants an intelli-

gence bill completed. Bush was expected to send a letter Friday to Congress laying out his wishes. As of mid-day, White House officials said the letter had not been delivered.

Sens. Susan Collins, R-Maine, and Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., the lead Senate negotiators, said they were not prepared to reopen negotiations, and said they expect the president's letter would endorse their compromise.

DNC raised more money for elections

By Sharon Theimer

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Republicans kept the White House and control of Congress this year, but the Democratic National Committee can take solace in an unexpected victory: It outraised its Republican rival by millions of dollars.

Figures the DNC filed with the Federal Election Commission on Thursday showed the Democratic committee took in \$17 million more than the Republican National Committee from January 2003 to late November.

DNC Chairman Terry McAuliffe said he considered the fund raising — combined with a lack of debt — all the more remarkable because the party finished the 2000 presidential race with \$18 million in bills to pay.

"We now have money in the bank, we have no debt, we have millions and millions of small donors, grass-roots. And we're very proud of what we did," McAuliffe said in a telephone interview.

"We had every player on the field in this election and we got to the 1-yard line."

The DNC raised \$402 million from January 2003 through Nov. 22, the period covered in its new campaign finance report. The Republican National Committee said it took in \$385 million and wasn't questioning the Democratic committee's financial edge.

Neverland searched

LOS OLIVOS, California — Sheriff's investigators conducted a search of Michael Jackson's Neverland ranch on Friday, a department spokesman said.

Sgt. Chris Pappas confirmed that a warrant was served at the rural estate but he would not release any more information.

Jackson already has been charged with child molestation, and his Neverland ranch was searched previously in the case. He faces trial next year.

The search warrant was served at 9 a.m. and investigators remained there into the late morning.

From The Associated Press

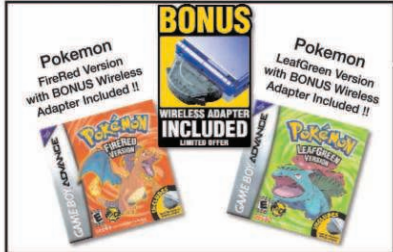
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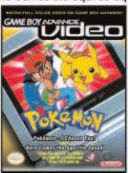
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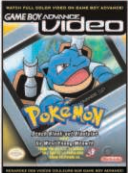
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Police officer rescued from WTC retires

BY ERIN MCCLAM

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — A Port Authority rookie detective who was among the last people pulled out alive from the rubble of the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001, retired from the force. "I was just a cop doing my job," he said during an emotional farewell Thursday.

Will Jimeno, 37, graduated from police academy and joined the Port Authority force in January 2001 in a ceremony at the trade center, where eight months later he nearly died.

With the collapsed ruins of Tower One around him, his left leg and foot crushed, Jimeno made his peace with God and thought mostly about the unborn second child he thought he would not live to see.

After 13 hours buried under 20 feet of rubble, Jimeno was pulled free.

"I am no different than anyone else," Jimeno said during a farewell ceremony at the Port Authority bus terminal that included a bagpipe-and-drum band.

Jimeno lost his composure only once during the ceremony — when he thanked retired Port Authority police Sgt. John McLoughlin, who was trapped even longer that day, for 22 hours.

Buried alive together, the two men talked, encouraging each other to survive.

Jimeno looked at McLoughlin, who was dressed in a blazer and tie and still walks with a hobble, and said: "If I had it to do over again, I'd do it over again with you."

Jimeno, who still undergoes rehabilitation and is often in pain, said he is not certain what he will do in retirement, but that he would like to work with law enforcement, perhaps helping other officers who have been injured on duty.

"I'm going to miss the job," he said. "But it's not the job you miss so much as the family. You guys in blue."

Speakers at the ceremony recalled the 37 fallen Port Authority police officers — "immortal heroes," in the words of a chaplain's prayer — who were among the 2,749 people who died at the trade center.

"Know this — that you will always be a member of this police department," Port Authority Chief of Department Christopher Truillo said.

"You're one of us, and we'll never completely let you go."

In attendance were other Port Authority officials, Jimeno's parents, wife and two daughters — including Olivia, who was born Nov. 26, 2001.



Port Authority Police Detective William Jimeno, left, fights tears and embraces fellow officer Victor Otero during a ceremony for his final roll call in New York on Thursday. Jimeno was one of five officers who rushed to the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001. When the towers collapsed he was buried for 13 hours and was one the last people pulled out alive.

Crowds turn out for tree lighting



The National Christmas tree is lit in front of the White House during the annual tree lighting ceremony in Washington on Thursday.

Mom indicted on murder

McKINNEY, Texas — A 35-year-old Plano woman who admitted to killing her baby by severing the girl's arms has been indicted on a capital murder charge.

A Collin County grand jury on Thursday issued the indictment against Dena Schlosser, who remains in the county jail.

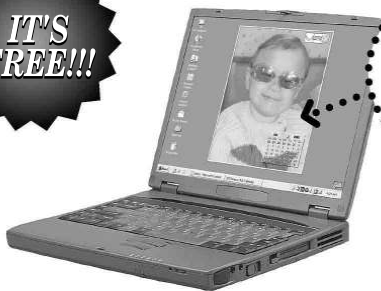
Schlosser admitted to a 911 operator on Nov. 22 that she severed the arms of 10-month-old Margaret, who died shortly afterward in a hospital.

Schlosser, who was treated for postpartum depression during a Child Protective Services neglect investigation early this year, was found in her apartment, covered in blood, still holding a knife and listening to a church hymn.

A judge granted CPS temporary custody of the Schlossers' other girls — ages 6 and 9 — after CPS determined their father failed to protect his children from their mother. CPS will ask a judge Friday to extend temporary custody indefinitely.

From The Associated Press

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Prescription drug use steadily rising in U.S.

BY RANDOLPH E. SCHMID
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Americans are cramming their medicine chests ever fuller in the struggle to lower cholesterol, treat depression, reduce inflammation and ease other illnesses.

More than 40 percent of the population is taking at least one prescription drug per person in every 6 to 10 years or more, the government said Thursday. Both figures are up about 5 percentage points in recent years.

"The fact is that we have more drugs available that actually do help people," said Dr. Ellsworth C. Seelye, who teaches medicine at the University of Kentucky. He cited drugs to deal with high blood pressure, cholesterol and help diabetes, among others.

Dennis Shea, a professor at Pennsylvania State University's college of health and human devel-

opment, found mixed news in the report.

"Certainly, in the 1990s there were lots of advances in being better able to target drugs to conditions," he said. "But there is that danger that people are overmedicating... taking so many medications that they can interact, make one ineffective or cause harm."

And, he added, "Americans seem to look for that magic pill, don't they?"

The benefits of improved diet and exercise can extend beyond any single ailment, he said.

Seelye said the increase may result from some overmedication, but he believes that has sometimes been exaggerated. "And there are drugs that are not lifesaving drugs in that sense — such as drugs for migraine headaches — that have certainly improved the quality of life for migraine sufferers," Seelye added.

The annual report on the na-

tion's health found an average of just over 44 percent of all Americans had taken at least one prescription drug, and 16.5 percent took at least three, in 1999-2000, the most recent data available.

Those rates were up from an average use of 39 percent and 12 percent between 1988 and 1994, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported. Those were the most recent data available.

The report, "Health, United States 2004," presents the latest data collected by CDC, the National Center for Health Statistics and dozens of other federal health agencies, academic and professional health associations, and international health organizations.

While the report is dated 2004, it uses the most recent data available, resulting in findings from several different years on different subjects.

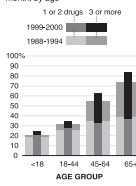
Americans' life expectancy in-

Medicated America

A government report on Americans' health found that more than 40 percent take at least one prescription drug.

Prescription drug use

Percentage of Americans reporting prescription drug use in the past month, by age



Sources: Centers for Disease Control and AP Prevention; National Center for Health Statistics.

record, and deaths from heart disease, cancer and stroke, the three leading killers, are all down 1 percent to 3 percent, the analysis said.

The prevalence of obesity in people ages 18 to 74 increased from 47 percent in 1976-80 to 65 percent in 1999-2000, the report said.

Prescription drugs, which make up about one-tenth of the total medical bill, were the fastest growing expenditure.

Oldest American dies at age 114

The Associated Press

WORTHINGTON, Ohio — America's oldest person, a 114-year-old woman who had the thinnest file in her doctor's office, has died.

Verona Johnston died Wednesday at home in Worthington, said her daughter, Julie Johnston.

Johnston said her mother was "ready to go," and that shortly before her death she said: "Dying is hard, but everyone has to do it, and I hope I do it well."

Johnston moved to Ohio at 98 to live with Johnston and her husband, both in their 80s.

She was born Aug. 6, 1890, in Indianapolis, Iowa. She was the eighth of nine children born to Civil War veteran Joseph Calhoun and Emma Seay Calhoun.

Johnston voted in every election since women earned the right in 1920, even casting an absentee ballot in November.

Relatives said Johnston lived a wholesome life, rarely visited doctors and never used the deductible on her health insurance.

Johnston taught Latin in high schools across Iowa. She married Harry Johnston, an Iowa physician who died in 1970.



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IMPORTANT

Bambino's bat sells for \$1.26M

By LARRY MCSHANE
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Going, gone, gone. The massive 46-ounce Louisville Slugger used by Babe Ruth to drill the first home run in Yankee Stadium history was sold for \$1.26 million Thursday to an unidentified private collector.



Ruth

The bat, 36 inches of solid ash billed as "The Holy Grail of sports memorabilia," sold after about one minute of high-stakes bidding at Sotheby's auction house, fetching a Ruthian price above its presale estimate of \$1 million, said Sotheby's spokeswoman Lauren Gioia.

The bat was only the third piece of sports memorabilia to break the \$1 million mark at auction, joining Mark McGwire's 70th home run ball (\$3 million) and a 1909 Honus Wagner baseball card (\$1.26 million), the auction house said. It was the most ever paid for a baseball bat.

The winning bid — about half the \$2.5 million it originally cost to build Yankee Stadium — came from Doug Allen, president of the Chicago-based auction house Mastromet Inc., on behalf of an East Coast collector who preferred to remain anonymous. The hammer price was \$1.1 million, with a 15 percent commission added.

"It was a blur," Allen said after the gavel fell on a final sales price of \$1,265,000. "It was exciting sitting in the room, lots of adrenaline pumping."

'Greatest Show on Earth' inspires replica

By VICKIE CHACHERE
The Associated Press

SARASOTA, Fla. — The "Greatest Show on Earth" in Howard Tibbals' world is also the smallest, with its diminutive circus acts, tiny spectators and a "big" top that measures just about 4-feet tall.

It is a magical world more than 50 years in the making. Its seeds planted in Tibbals' imagination as a child when he watched the circus roll into town.

He has since handcrafted nearly 1 million pieces to make up his miniature circus, which will soon have a permanent home at the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art in a grand \$9 million building.

The Tibbals Learning Center — built with a \$6.5 million donation from Tibbals, the retired head of a successful flooring company — is scheduled to be completed in January 2006.

When it's done, the display also will be another milestone in the renaissance of the Ringling es-



Howard Tibbals displays part of his miniature replica circus train rail cars at the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art in Sarasota, Fla.

te. Museum officials said the tiny circus is central to the effort to create a collection of artifacts that will be a tribute to the American circus.

Visitors will be able to see Tibbals' 1/16th-scale miniature circus fully assembled in an area that's large enough to park 11 school buses. Dubbed the

1,200 employees in just hours," he said during a recent interview in the new 30,000-square-foot center. "How in the world did they move that stuff every day? An awful lot of muscle, both human and animal."

The creation of Tibbals' circus is both a tale of a man fascinated and charmed by circuses and remarkable devotion to recreating a bygone era. Since he was a young man, Tibbals has spent two or three hours a day working with wood, plastic and cloth to construct the tiny elements that make up the traveling big top.

The circus has been on display a few times before, including at the World's Fair in Knoxville, Tenn., in 1982 and at the National Geographic Society in Washington. But for most of its existence, it has been in storage at Tibbals' home in Onondaga, Tenn.

Tibbals had been searching for a permanent home for his circus when he made the \$6.5 million donation in 2000 for the construction of the facility. Additional financing is coming from the Ringling endowment and the state.



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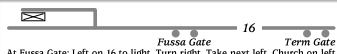
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More in America waiting to get married

BY GENARO C. ARMAS

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — It used to be common for men and women to get a marriage certificate not too long after collecting their high school diploma. Not anymore.

Census Bureau figures for 2003 show one-third of men and nearly one-quarter of women between the ages of 30 and 34 have never been married, nearly four times the rates in 1970.

It's further evidence young people are focusing on education and careers before settling down and beginning families, experts say.

Societal taboos about couples living to-

gether before marriage also have eased, said Linda Waite, a University of Chicago sociologist.

Jeni Lander, a 30-year-old law student from Boston, said she considers living together a requirement before saying "I do."

"I don't know how people got married before living together first," said Lander, who moved in with her fiancé after getting engaged nearly a year ago. "This is crucial to see how you get along."

Data from the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey released this week show the age at which someone typically marries for the first time rose from 20.8 for women and 23.2 for men in 1970 to 25.3 and 27.1, respectively, last year.

In 1970, only 6 percent of women 30 to 34 had never been married; the figure was 23 percent in 2003. The rate for never-married men in the same age group rose from 9 percent to 33 percent.

Among younger women, some 36 percent of those 20 to 24 had never been married in 1970; last year it was 75 percent. Among men in that age group, the change was nearly as dramatic: 55 percent in 1970 to 86 percent last year.

"The majority of people still want to get married, but they see it sort of as dessert now, something that's desirable rather than necessary," said Dorion Solt, executive director of the Albany, N.Y.-based Alternatives to Marriage Project, which aims

to fight discrimination based on marital status and to seek equality and fairness for unmarried people.

"People want to be more sure that they don't make a marriage mistake," Solt said.

Meanwhile, societal pressures to marry before having children have decreased, said Thomas Coleman, executive director for the Glendale, Calif.-based Unmarried Americans, which also promotes equality for unmarried people. Among the group's concerns are tax policies which it contends are stacked against single people.

In 2003, nearly 55 percent of all births were to unmarried women, according to the National Center for Health Statistics.

Yet births to unmarried teens have declined since the mid-1990s.

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RELIGION

'Merry Chrismukkah'

Greeting card companies combine Christian, Jewish holiday themes

BY MATT SEDENSKY
The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Every December, Zack and Hilary Rudman used to send out nonsectarian cards with winter scenes and generic holiday greetings.

Now, however, Zack Rudman, a Kansas City lawyer, has found a variety that seems to better suit a Jewish man and an Episcopal woman with two young children as familiar with the menorah as with a manger scene.

These cards proclaim: "Merry Chrismukkah!"

"I'm all for holiday cards but I want to make sure when we send something it respects both sides of our family," Rudman said. "I always like to deal with religious differences with humor."

Christmas and Hanukkah, two holidays that seem to share little more than a calendar page, are increasingly being melded on greeting cards aimed at the country's estimated 2.5 million families with both Jewish and Christian members.

"It's representative of the way people live and the way they spend the holidays," said Elise Okrend, an owner of Raleigh, N.C.-based MixedBlessing, a card company devoted to interfaith holiday greetings.

MixedBlessing was among the first to come out with holiday cards intended for Jewish-Christian families about 15 years ago and still may be the only company focusing entirely on that market segment.

In its first year, it sold about 3,000 cards. This year, Okrend projects sales of 200,000 cards off its 85-card line.

Kansas City-based Hallmark Cards Inc. says one of its most popular categories of Hanukkah cards combines Jewish and Christian themes.

"The essence of these cards is not about interfaith households as much as it is about friends and family members of different faiths acknowledging the different holidays that they all celebrate," said Shalanda Stanley, a Hallmark product manager.

American Greetings Corp. has about 10 Hanukkah-Christmas line offerings this year.

The newest player is Chrismukkah. Ron Gompertz founded the company this year with his wife, inspired by an episode of the popular Fox series "The O.C." in which character Seth Cohen, whose mother is Protestant and whose father is Jewish, coins the term.

As with anything addressing religion, though, card makers are careful not to offend. Chrismukkah even offers a disclaimer:



Holiday cards for Hanukkah and Christmas rolled last week into a display at Rod's Hallmark in Lawrence, Kan. Christmas and Hanukkah, two holidays that seem to share little more than a calendar page, are increasingly being melded on greeting cards aimed at the country's estimated 2.5 million families with both Jewish and Christian members.

or: "We respect people's different faiths and do not suggest combining the religious observance of Christmas and Hanukkah."

Gompertz explains: "Our intention wasn't to merge the religious aspects but rather the secular aspects of the holidays."

Cards from Chrismukkah, based in Livingston, Mont., use humor to create a hybrid holiday. Greetings include images of a Christmas tree decorated with dreidels, a menorah filled with candy canes and simpler varieties featuring messages such as "Merry Mazeltov" and "Oy Joy."

Gompertz is Jewish and from New York City. He married the daughter of a Protestant minister from the Midwest.

"It's whimsical. It's humorous," said Gompertz. "This is a way of diffusing the seriousness of it."

Most of American Greetings' Hanukkah-Christmas cards are humorous, too. One shows three snowmen — two dressed in traditional winter hats and scarves, the third wearing a yarmulke and prayer shawl. Another features a list of Hanukkah songs that never caught on, like "Sleeping Through a Winter Wonderland" and "Bubbie Got Run Over by a Reindeer."

"We don't go over the line," said Pam Pink, who works on Jewish-themed cards for American Greetings. "We're careful to make sure it's lighthearted funny, not too far."

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St. James, Smith release their latest work

BY BRIAN BOWERS

Stars and Stripes

Rebecca St. James has earned acclaim, awards and fans with her music. However, some of her greatest impact has been made through the printed page.

"Wait For Me" established the 27-year-old pop singer as a major voice in the sexual-purity movement. In her fourth book, released last month, she takes up a wider range of women's concerns.

The catalyst for "SHE" was a stressful period that followed 13 months of touring and a decision to establish her own home. The accumulated pressure left her feeling that she couldn't rely on anyone around her anymore.

"It was me sensing this massive inner struggle," St. James said. "... I felt a coldness and a hardness creeping in on me."

Although St. James was able to move from that place of hardness and return to "softness," many other women feel trapped. These are the people St. James and her co-author Lynda Hunter Bjorklund hope will pick up "SHE."

The book's title actually derives from an acronym the pair developed. "Women have to have Safety, Health and be Empowered," St. James said.

Each of these three topics is divided into nine key areas, such as beauty, sexual purity, security, femininity, setting boundaries and mentoring. Some of these topics require that women strike a balance. For example, it's important to feel beautiful but women who focus too much on their physical aspects can fall into the trap of eating disorders.

Today's praise

One of the book's primary targets is popular culture, with its focus on promiscuity and vanity.

"We're bombarded with every kind of message ... It becomes very about the here-and-now and not the heavenly mind-set," she said.

As a result, the book's key areas aim to counteract these cultural influences that don't "have our best interest at heart." In doing this, the book draws heavily on biblical themes and each of the nine key areas offers a woman from the Bible as a model.

"We wanted to come back to, 'God is the answer,' and to trust him," St. James said.

On the Web: <http://rsjames.com>



AP

Disc tip

When Michael W. Smith's "Healing Rain" hit the stores last month, the new CD shot to the top of the Christian music charts and as high as No. 11 on the mainstream charts. The title track topped the adult contemporary radio chart.

That shouldn't surprise anyone who's heard the disc's first two songs — "Here I Am" and the title track. They grab the listener with powerful instrumentals, lyrics and vocals. "Healing Rain" tells of God's gracious and healing love. "Here I Am" assertively proclaims a willingness to "give up my life for the One." Both of these praise songs are in line with Smith's tre-

Contemporary Christian music artist Michael W. Smith takes a break from radio interviews in October at Paragon Studios in Franklin, Tenn. Smith released a new CD called "Healing Rain" last month.

mendously successful worship CDs of the last few years.

However, the disc switches pace on the third track, "Live Forever," slowing down and turning contemplative. Actually it seems a bit too slow, as if most of the energy captured in the first two songs has dissipated. Most of the remaining songs are definitely made for easy listening, including a cover of Simon and Garfunkel's "Bridge Over Troubled Waters." "Hang On" and "Fly To The Moon" pick up the pace and

explore interesting topics but don't recapture the power of the initial songs.

Of course easy listening is perfectly fine if that's what you're after. The problem is that many of Smith's fans are drawn to his energetic worship songs or upbeat adult-contemporary tunes.

On the Web: www.michaelwsmith.com

Today's Praise is a roundup of news and reviews from the contemporary Christian music industry. It appears on the Religion page.

E-mail Brian Bowers at: bowers@stripes.osd.mil

NEW

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Sunday Horoscope

As Sagittarian energy rules the sky, a forceful optimism steers us.

We don't have to believe in the power of positive thinking to experience its results. Instead of seeing the correlation between our thoughts and the outcome, we may chalk it up to good luck when happy events occur. It doesn't matter who gets the credit, as long as credit is given.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

December 5: Thrilling advances in your personal life make this year/level and fabulous! Make your mind up now about where to put your financial focus because the stars give you a serious push in the next five weeks. Investments in February secure your future. The obstacles in your love life are what make this such an opportunity to grow closer than ever.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Your family or friends may ask burdensome favors, such as covering for them when you know they are up to no good. Try not to get mixed into the mix. Be evasive. Commit to nothing. Buy time. You learn from others' mistakes.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

While people close to you wander aimlessly, you're getting a message from the cosmos about your special mission. So round up the troops and start making plans. You are a natural-born leader. Love tip: Hold out for a hero.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

You know more than you think you do. It's quite fascinating to start a dialogue with your own subconscious mind. Dreams answer your questions and unravel your problems. Write them down as you remember them.

CANCER (June 22-July 22): It's an ambitious cycle you've entered, and you're building quite a reputation. There's no need to remind anyone what you've accomplished. Be mellow, laugh, and keep things low key. Potential sweethearts are fascinated.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Relationships seem complicated, but you can solve problems in 15 minutes of concentrated effort. Get clear about your expectations, and

realize the other person brought a few of his or her own expectations to the table, too.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

The reason Bart Simpson is more popular than his sister Lisa is simple: No one likes a know-it-all. But Bart's friends are losers, and Lisa's life is fulfilling and multifaceted. Your choices reflect which Simpson you'd rather be.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

You'll be flirting with life's high-end goods and may explore your love affair with fashion or satisfy your penchant for overpriced art. This makes more fiscally reasonable loved ones pesky and irritable, but what the heck?

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)

Stick your neck out. When you express interest in a project, you just may wind up running things. It's one way into an elite circle. The tension between you and that cute someone is a sign of mutual attraction.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Just when you thought you'd seen it all, enter the weirdos and eccentric geniuses, and they want you as their own. Be open to adding friends to your life, and you will add employment opportunities without even realizing it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

When you speak about love, you speak with a deep, penetrating, forceful tone. It's because you've figured out things you're looking for that you weren't getting. Now, you're ready, and you know it's out there. Go get it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Your ideas about what "good" is are morphing into something more meaningful than the surface requirements you held yourself to before. Good posture, nutrition and manners seem less important than good, clean fun.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

If perfection is boring, then practice makes snakes. This is a fine time to wing it and see what happens. This is true for dates, chores, social gatherings and creative endeavors. Loosen up, and live a little.

Creators Syndicate

Holiday Mathis



irritable, but what the heck?

Identity theft attempts are best ignored or reported

Dear Abby: You printed a letter from "Eugene in N.J." about a letter he received saying that he was "the sole beneficiary of a \$12 million estate." He said he responded by sending information on a bank account that he "no longer does business with, but had a \$2.83 balance remaining." That was the wrong move! Now the thieves have his name, address and account number. It doesn't matter if the account was closed or open — thieves counterfeited checks using the information he gave them. Scans such as "Eugene" described are a common way identity thieves gather information. Unfortunately, the actions he took in his anger and frustration have exposed him to identity theft. It is important to understand that e-mail scans are sent out to millions of people. If you answer — even to say stop writing — you will be put on a "sucker" list.

Some common scans people need to avoid:

- No company is going to call or e-mail you to verify an account, ask for your Social Security number, or any bank or credit

card numbers, PERIOD! This is called "phishing." Account verification scans look very real, but are ALL scans. Do not answer them no matter how convinced you are that it is a real company.

- You have NOT won a lottery in the Netherlands, or Canada, or anywhere else, if you didn't first buy a ticket here in the U.S.A.

- Question any company that offers you a prize, but asks for a fee or your Social Security number, and verify the existence of that company through the Better Business Bureau, and confirm independently that the prize is real.

- A stranger did not die and leave you money.

- The Nigerian scam has now morphed into a creative writing exercise about all kinds of people needing your help to transfer money from one account to another. This practice is called money laundering, and it is illegal.

- You may also be telephone-scanned with similar offers. Be on the alert for suspicious callers, and never give out your Social Security number or a credit card number to anyone who calls you.

Dear Abby



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Thank you, Abby, for helping your readers to understand how thieves steal a person's identity.

— Linda Foley, Co-Executive Director, Identity Theft Resource Center

Dear Linda: Thank you for sharing this valuable information with my readers and me. Readers, my experts tell me the only safe way to deal with a scam is to either hit the "delete" key, or forward it to the Federal Trade Commission at spam@att.net and THEN delete it. As tempting as it may seem, do not engage any of the scammers in a dialogue.

The Identity Theft Resource Center is a nonprofit program, based in San Diego, that is grant- and donation-funded. Its mission is to help victims of identity theft and consumers. For further information on scams, including examples of common scans, visit the Web site at www.idtheft-center.org.

Confidential to "Disgusted With Myself in Tucson, Ariz.": Don't be so hard on yourself! Even a clock that isn't working is right twice a day.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 6940, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby at abby@latimes.com or <http://www.uepress.com/dearabby>. Universal Press Syndicate

Light a candle for families grieving the death of a child

Dear Annie: When a child dies in your family, the world changes and you will never again be the same person. Life goes on, but priorities change, and remembering the child who has died is an important way of traveling through your grief journey to the other side.

The holiday season is especially difficult given old traditions often give way to new, more meaningful traditions that help to remember the child, sibling or grandchild who has died.

That is why The Compassionate Friends created the Worldwide Candle Lighting. The Compassionate Friends is a self-help bereavement organization for families that have experienced the death of a child.

This year marks the eighth anniversary of the first Candle Lighting, and tens of thousands of families worldwide will participate from countries around the globe.

The Worldwide Candle Lighting is held the second Sunday in December, this year on Dec. 12. At 7 p.m. local time, each person lights a candle that burns for one

hour. Candles are first lit just west of the International Date Line and an hour later in the next time zone, eventually creating a 24-hour wave of light to remember all children who have died, no matter their age or country of origin.

I would ask your readers to join The Compassionate Friends and allied service organizations by lighting a candle at home with friends and family, or attending one of the hundreds of planned services throughout the United States.

For more information on this touching tribute, visit The Compassionate Friends at www.compassionatefriends.org or call, toll-free, 1-877-969-0010. We also ask that your readers visit our Web site on Dec. 12 and place a memorial message in our online Remembrance Book.

— Patricia Loder, Executive Director, The Compassionate Friends, USA

Dear Patricia Loder: We appreciate the opportunity to ask our readers once again to participate in the Worldwide Candle Lighting in remembrance of all the

children who have died. The loss of a child, no matter the age or circumstances, is one of life's harshest blows.

Please light a candle next Sunday, Dec. 12, at 7 p.m., and remember every child who is no longer with us.

Dear Annie: My wife and I have been married for one year but don't see each other much because we're both in the Army. Lately, she hasn't wanted to talk to me. She says she needs to "find herself." I care about her, but I'm not sure I want to be with someone who doesn't want to be with me. Any ideas?

— Arkansas
Dear Arkansas: It's difficult to maintain a healthy marriage when you are separated for long periods of time, and even when the two of you have the opportunity to live together again, you will need time to rebuild your relationship. The Army offers counseling, and you and your wife should each make use of it.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Mary Scary, longtime editors of *The Ann Landers* column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Creators Syndicate

Drifting onto word 'stranded'

The other day, I was "stranded" as a result of car trouble. While waiting for the tow truck, I passed the time in contemplation of the origin of "stranded." I didn't get very far with it; can you find the answer for me?

— T. C. Albuquerque, N.M.

An old but still common word for the shore that you may have heard is "strand." It comes from the Old Norse word "strond," meaning "shore." In the early 17th century a verb emerged from this noun with the meaning "to run, drive, or cause to drift

onto a strand," in other words, "to run aground."

It wasn't a long step for an extended sense to develop from this verb: "to leave in a strange or unfavorable place especially without funds or means to depart."

This, of course, is the sense that you are familiar with.

We hope that your car troubles have passed and you are "stranded" no more.

This column was prepared by the Editors of Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, Tenth Edition. Readers may send questions to Merriam-Webster's Wordwatch, P.O. Box 20, 7 Federal St., Springfield, Mass. 01102.

SPECIAL TO STARS AND STRIPES

Walter Scott's **Personality** PARADE.

Want the facts? Opinions? Truth? Write Walter Scott, Box 5001, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y. 10163-5001. Full name will be used unless otherwise requested. Volume of mail makes personal replies impossible.

Q Is it true that Howard Hughes, the reclusive billionaire, was once a famous Hollywood playboy? — Cliff Leshner, Wheeling, W.Va.

A Yes, and Martin Scorsese's biopic about Hughes — "The Aviator," which opens Dec. 17 and stars Leonardo DiCaprio — chronicles the mogul's affairs with such glamorous beauties as Ava Gardner and Katharine Hepburn. (A diamond and sapphire brooch he gave Kate recently fetched \$120,000 at auction.) Hughes also launched Jean Harlow's career but apparently never bedded her.



KRT

If actress Roma Downey is dating the king of reality TV, does that make her the queen?

Q I heard that "Touched by an Angel" star Roma Downey divorced director David Anspaugh while he was hospitalized for depression. Has she remarried? — Sandi Tobin, Charleston, S.C.

A No, but the twice-married Downey, 41, is now entangled with Mark Burnett, 44, king of reality TV ("Survivor," "The Apprentice"). Maybe the two will come up with a reality show titled "Who Goes to Heaven?" Speaking of reality, the business about Anspaugh being hospitalized was just a rumor.



KRT

Natalie Portman tried to help Zach Braff get a clue in "Garden State" by referring him to a song by The Shins.

Q Five years ago, Gene Wilder was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. How's he doing? — Mike Ferman, Arlington, Texas

A He says he's healthy and feeling fine. A unique comic talent, Wilder, 71, is best known for "The Producers" (1968) and "Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory" (1971). Two years after losing his third wife, Gilda Radner, to ovarian cancer in 1989, he wed Karen Webb, 62, a speech therapist. Wilder earned a 2003 Emmy for his star turn on "Will & Grace" and recently provided a voice for the animated feature "Over the Hedge," due out next year.

Q Can you tell me if Ving is Ving Rhames' real name? — Eileen D., Nashville, Tenn.

A His first name is Irving. Ving is a nickname given to him by actor Stanley Tucci when they were college roommates. Incidentally, Rhames, 45, will play the title role in a "Kojak" movie next month on the USA Network and has signed on for a "Kojak" series.

Q What can you tell me about the beautiful necklace that Susan Sarandon wore in "Shall We Dance"? — Linda Dominguez, Petaluma, Calif.



KRT

Susan Sarandon: Good at preaching peace, bad at keeping track of valuables.

later scenes.

Q What do you make of the rumors that Britney Spears may retire at 22? — Debra J., Anthem, Ariz.

A Retire from what? Her career in pop music, or her personal antics?



AP

Britney Spears says she might retire — threat, or promise?

Q In the film "Garden State," Natalie Portman tells Zach Braff that a certain song will change his life. What is that song? — Marie Bell, Camden, N.J.

A "New Slang," by The Shins, a band based in Portland, Ore. Leader James Mercer's lyrics ("I'm looking in on the good life I might be doomed never to find") fit Zach's character — an immature guy searching for his place in the world. The film's certified-gold soundtrack also features Coldplay, Frou Frou and Simon & Garfunkel.

Q You ran an item about golf champ Vijay Singh. How does his record this year stack up to Tiger Woods? — Kevin D., St. Louis, Mo.

A No contest. At this writing, Singh has nine wins in 2004 and is a shoo-in for the PGA Tour Player of the Year Award. By comparison, Woods has had one win in 19 starts. With more than \$10 million, Singh has surpassed Woods' earnings record for one year, set in 2000.



AP

These days, PGA golf champ Vijay Singh leads, and Tiger Woods follows.

Q In terms of sheer power, how would you compare Vladimir Putin with past Russian leaders? — Henry R., Los Angeles

A Once hailed as a force for democracy, Putin, 52, will soon have total control of the executive, legislative and provincial branches of government. He's jailed some opponents and muzzled the free press. All this makes him Russia's most powerful leader since Stalin.

Insanity claim

FL TAMPA — Debra Lafave, the middle school teacher accused of having sex with a 14-year-old student, will claim she was insane at the time of the alleged encounters.

Lafave's attorney, John Fitzgibbons, announced in court that he would file notice of an insanity defense "in the near future."

"Debbie has some profound emotional issues that are not her fault," Fitzgibbons said afterward.

A cadre of TV camera crews turned out to capture the 24-year-old Lafave, blond and blue-eyed, as she entered and left the courtroom, flanked by her lawyer and family.

Gone was the smoky eye shadow and hot red lipstick that have characterized her image on national TV and on the Internet.

Instead, Lafave showed up for court Tuesday with muted makeup, a somber black suit and heels, her hair demurely pinned back. A small golden crucifix hung from her neck.

Lafave has pleaded not guilty to four felony counts of lewd and lascivious battery and one count of lewd and lascivious exhibition, each of which carry a maximum 15-year prison term.

Lights out for Christmas

OH EASTLAKE — Don't blame the Grinch or Ebenezer Scrooge if this northeastern Ohio city isn't quite as jolly and bright for Christmas as to come.

City officials say money — or a lack of it — is causing them to stop costly holiday decorations up for sale.

In the last 10 years, Eastlake has spent \$130,000 on holiday lights, displays and banners. Nearly \$50,000 of the cost was offset by donations.

"In the foreseeable future, we're not going to have the kind of money to put on that kind of display," Mayor Ted Andrzejewski said recently. "I like the Christmas season, but we have to cut it within our means."

Andrzejewski said he's willing to sell the decorations for the right price. His community about 20 miles northeast of Cleveland has a \$3.2 million budget deficit.

Available items include snowball-throwing teddy bears that cost the city \$7,025, an animated giraffe and a lighted peacock.

Paper sale

PA PHILADELPHIA — At the start of the holiday shopping season, The Philadelphia Inquirer inadvertently offered an early bird special of its own.

The early edition of Sunday's Inquirer, which is published on Saturday, was mistakenly priced at 50 cents instead of the usual \$1.50.

"Mistakes happen," said Amanda Bennett, The Inquirer's editor. "I wish that wasn't the case, but it was. We'll move on."

Major retailers were notified of the mistake Saturday morning.

Probst said retailers who lost money as a result of the misprint would be compensated.

About 80,000 copies of the early edition, also known as the bulldog



edition, are sold at newsstands each week. The paper's total Sunday circulation is about 742,000, said Probst.

Gambling crackdown

AL MONTGOMERY — After a five-month review of electronic gambling, Attorney General Troy King announced he will try to shut down the newest gambling site in rural White Hall. He also warned two dog tracks to replace electronic machines he considers illegal.

King, who said he personally opposes gambling, said he could not ban all electronic bingo games as some gambling foes wanted.

Charitable dog

KS OLATHE — The Salvation Army's 20,000 shiny red kettles and trademark bell-ringers are easy to spot, but one helper stands out — on four legs.

Providence, a 6-year-old German wire-haired pointer, is in her third season as a Salvation Army volunteer.

She's able to do all the things her colleagues do. Providence rings a bell with her mouth and has also learned to take donations and put them in the kettle.

"This is not a drooly-mouth dog," said her owner, Penny Shaffer.

For a while, however, it looked as though the dog's charity work would end.



Trimming the tree

Rob Bingham, who works for Hollywood Lights, puts up decorative lights at Gene Coutu Park in Renton, Wash., while getting ready for the Clam Lights 2004, which runs through the holiday season.

In April, a tumor was discovered on the roof of her mouth. It was removed, but another one appeared 12 days later.

"They gave her zip chances," said Shaffer.

Surgery removed Providence's second tumor, three teeth and part of her upper jaw. Her jaw was reconstructed, and she had to be on a feeding tube for more than a month while she healed.

She went through 18 radiation treatments, and there's been no recurrence of cancer.

And on Thursday, Providence returns to her bell-ringing post.

Bordello back in action

NV VIRGINIA CITY — The state's first legal bordello is set to reopen, but the notorious Mustang Ranch name may be shut out of the action.

The Storey County Commission has granted a brothel license to Wild Horse Resort & Spa owner Lance Gilman to operate a second brothel next to the Wild Horse about four miles east of the former Mustang property.

The government seized the Mustang in 1999 after its owners were convicted of racketeering. Gilman bought it on eBay for \$145,000 and moved the Mustang buildings to the Wild Horse site.

The commission will decide at its next meeting whether to let Gilman keep the Mustang Ranch name, which he says was part of his purchase.

Oscar Williams, the owner of Ambient Entertainment of Reno, claims to have the rights to the trademark for clothing and other merchandise. And David Burgess, the owner of the Old Bridge Ranch, also objects to the use of the name. His brother is located near the former Mustang Ranch site.

Gilman said he has spent about \$1.5 million on site preparation and moving the old brothel to his land.

While the original Mustang has 50 rooms, Wild Horse madam Susan Austin said the new one would open with about 20.

Insurance rebates

NJ TRENTON — More than 360,000 New Jerseyans will receive rebates from the state's second-largest auto insurer, the Department of Banking and Insurance announced. New Jersey Manufacturers is issuing a \$59 million special dividend to state policyholders. The average rebate for people who have held the company's policies since 2001 or before is \$173, NJM said.

Policyholders who enrolled after 2001 will get an average rebate of \$94.

Recycling increases

WI MADISON — Residential recycling is on the rise after several years of decline, state data show. Residents recycled an average 267 pounds of waste last year, 6 pounds more than the previous year. State recycling chief Cynthia Moore said the market for recycled material is getting stronger. Overall, Wisconsin residents recycled 735,610 tons of material last year, an increase of about 21,000 tons from 2002.



Early snowblowing

Neighbors Walt Goodman, left, and Gerald Thilmany team up with snow shovel and snowblower to clear out a neighbor's snow covered driveway in Duluth, Minn.



In memoriam

Sgt. Layne Marti, left, of Eldridge, Iowa, watches as Weber Stone President Mike Deutmeyer guides one of two identical stone memorials into a CH-47 Chinook helicopter from Company F, 106th Aviation of the Iowa National Guard at the Weber Stone Company quarry in Stone City, Iowa. The memorials are destined for the unit's facilities in Davenport and Peoria, Ill., in remembrance of the three crewmembers killed and two wounded near Fallujah, Iraq, on Nov. 2, 2003.



Blown away

High winds caused the top half of the Cowtown cowboy to topple over, leaving just the legs standing, in Pilesgrove Township, N.J.



Brave firefighter
pied at the time of the blaze.

Diboll volunteer firefighter Joe Parish chops through the roof into the burning attic of a house fire in Diboll, Texas. The house was unoccu-



Looks warm, but isn't

The sun rises Thursday over Alcatraz Island and the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge as seen from Sausalito, Calif. Recent low temperatures have been breaking records, damaging the state's strawberry crop and raising concerns about the homeless.



You're what you eat

Marica Rondonuwu pretends to place a bunch of bananas on her head during a healthy diet class at Wegmans Supermarket in Woodbridge, N.J.



Setting up

Construction work for President Bush's inauguration ceremony is under way on the West Front of the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C.

Weather vacancy

MN TOWER — You betcha it gets cold up here, but how will we know how cold this year? This small northeastern Minnesota town that recorded the state's record low in 1996 — a pretty nippy 60 degrees below zero — is without an official weather observer.

The woman who previously held the post left in mid-October; she'd reported Tower's daily temperature and precipitation since 1972.

In the meantime, highs and lows in town that stands at a higher elevation than the official weather station. Colder air typically drains into the valley.

Tower, about 35 miles south of the Canadian border, and nearby Embarras usually vie for Minnesota's daily low, forecasters say.

Both towns are generally apart by a degree or two.

Mike Stewart, meteorologist in charge of the National Weather Service in Duluth, said the agency is searching for a replacement to fill the spot in the valley.

Embarrass still has an official observer, Stewart said. The low there was a house zero Monday.

St. Helens pollution

WA VANCOUVER — Since it began erupting in October, Mount St. Helens has been Washington's worst air pollutant. The volcano spews 50 to 250 tons of sulfur dioxide into the air each day, the U.S. Geological Survey said. That compares to about 120 tons a day from all the state's industries combined. Sulfur dioxide is the gas that causes acid rain and contributes to haze.

Boar killings

PA PITTSBURGH — News that the Pig Farm, a private hunting ground, is best known for its immense pigs probably doesn't come as a great surprise.

What is surprising is that someone would go to the trouble of sneaking to the perimeter of the grounds, shooting and killing a dozen or so wild boars, then leaving the carcasses behind. "I don't think it would be an accident," said Mario Schiavo, a Pennsylvania State Police trooper.

Whoever killed the animals, Schiavo said, would have probably shot through, or above, the electrified fence that surrounds the hunting ground, which is 80 acres, or the size of about 60 football fields. As for motive, Schiavo said it could have been a prank, or someone who's angry with the park's owner, or someone who really, intensely dislikes boars.

"Who knows?" Schiavo said. "People don't have anything better to do than to cause grief for other people, I guess."

Pension predicament

WV CHARLESTON — The West Virginia Supreme Court says the state can't sell \$3.9 billion in bonds to shore up its pension funds without voter approval. The justices say the bond sale would violate the state constitution, which requires a voter-approved amendment before the state takes on new debt. Gov. Bob Wise argued that the bonds would refinance existing debt and not constitute new debt.

Business boom

NV LAS VEGAS — New Census data shows Nevada led the nation in growth of so-called "nonemployer businesses" in 2002.

The survey found just over 128,000 of these businesses, which have one or more owners but no employees. The state reported a 7.9 percent rise from 2001. Nationally, the number of nonemployer businesses grew 3.9 percent to 17.6 million in 2002.

Flu shots for elderly

MA BOSTON — State residents 65 and older now qualify for flu shots under eased restrictions announced by the Department of Public Health. Earlier this fall, the state responded to the vaccine shortage by barring adults under 75 from receiving the shot. Officials said more vaccine has become available lately.

Pheasants safe for now

SD PIERRE — A judge struck down a new state law that let road hunters shoot at pheasants after they leave the roadway and fly over adjacent private land. Two ranch couples argued that the 2003 law was unconstitutional because it made private property available to the public without compensation. The state has said the law doesn't take private property for public use.

Dragging death

TX HOUSTON — A man who was dragged along a freeway by his girlfriend's car in rush-hour traffic, then thrown into the air, has died at a hospital from his injuries.

The victim's arm may have been severed — or at least badly mangled — in the ordeal, said police. The 43-year-old man's girlfriend told investigators she blacked out and doesn't remember the event.

Dewey Dale Whitehead of Buna died at Ben Taub Hospital around 8:30 p.m. Tuesday night.

Whitehead and his girlfriend had driven to Houston from the East Texas town for a doctor's appointment on Tuesday. The woman suddenly stopped the car in the right lane of traffic of the East Freeway shortly after 3 p.m. Witnesses said Whitehead, who was in the front passenger's seat, got out and walked around the driver's side, opened the door and stood talking to her.

"The next thing the witnesses know, she floors it, and she's apparently moving at a pretty good clip and he's hanging on the side of the vehicle," Police Department Homicide Sgt. Mark Newcomb told the Houston Chronicle in Thursday's editions.

The car was moving an estimated 50 mph or more as Whitehead was dragged along the freeway shoulder, passing other vehicles that were stuck in rush-hour traffic, witnesses said.

The 24-year-old woman side-swiped another vehicle as her car reached a narrow portion of the freeway. That propelled Whitehead into the air over his girlfriend's car and he landed in a ditch.

Whitehead's girlfriend sustained minor injuries.

Newcomb said the woman was taking prescription medication, but it was unknown if that played any role in the events.

Stories and photos from wire services



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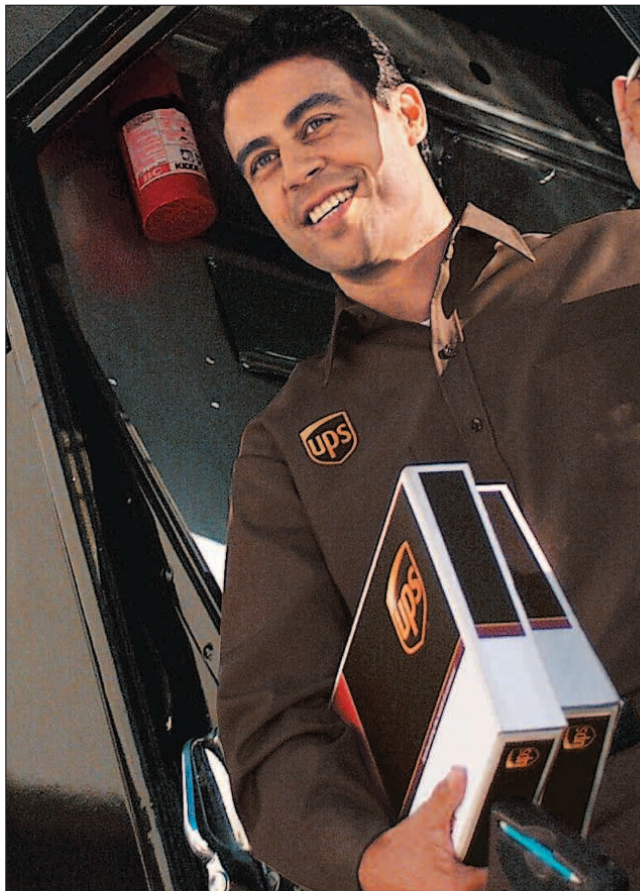
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YOUR MONEY

Be specific when filling out a living will

BY LAURA MECKLER
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Patients checking into hospitals and clients meeting with their lawyers often are advised to take a simple step toward planning for the future: fill out a living will.

But the reality is, too often, they don't really work.

The concept is straightforward: Outline your wishes while you're healthy to guide doctors and family members who might have to make life-or-death decisions for you later on. Would you want to linger in a vegetative state if it were unlikely you'd ever wake up? Or would you rather be allowed to die? But end-of-life medical decisions often involve much more complicated medical and moral questions. Many living wills are so vague as to be useless.

"We've tried to take very complicated, difficult, painful, wrenching decisions and make them a simple yes or no. These are never easy decisions and they're never black-and-white," said Sean Morrison, a geriatrician at Mount Sinai Medical School in New York.

It's what might be used that "extraordinary measures" be used if someone's condition is hopeless. But what is an extraordinary measure? And what is hopeless? If there's a 10 percent chance a treatment will extend someone's life by six months, is that good enough? Should an end-stage Alzheimer's patient, whose life is greatly di-

Ways to make your wishes known

Some tips for end-of-life planning:

■ **Talk to your doctor about your wishes and values concerning end-of-life care.** What would make life not worth living for you? Ask your doctor to note your views on a chart.

■ **Give a family member or trusted friend the legal authority to make medical decisions for you if you are unable.** Talk to that person about your values and wishes.

■ **Consider a living will.** If you do, be as specific as possible. You might include information about whether you want life-sustaining treatment, types of treatment you would or would not want and under what conditions; preferences about artificial nutrition and hydration; what if any pain control medication you want and under what circumstances; and whether you want to be an organ donor.

■ **Consider using a standardized living will** that addresses some of the basic questions such as the popular "Five Wishes" document produced by the nonprofit Aging with Dignity. (Available for \$5 each.)

■ **Update your living will if you are diagnosed with a serious or terminal disease** or address the medical situations that are most common to people with your condition. Talk with your doctor about what to expect.

■ **Talk to family members about your general wishes to minimize disputes** if decisions must be made for you.

■ **Keep your living will in an accessible, easy-to-find spot.** Tell your family where to find the document. Give copies to your doctor, family members likely to be involved in decision-making, hospitals that might treat you and your lawyer.

— The Associated Press

minished but still has moments of joy, be given antibiotics to treat an infection that otherwise might bring a quicker end?

There are other problems. People often don't know how to write their living wills but don't update them. Many living wills never make it to the bedside, left in a file cabinet or safety deposit box. And family and doctors often do a poor job of deciphering the patient's wishes even when they have the wills in hand.

"Most people believe that a living will can be written that is effective and that genuinely conveys real information that can be used in making decisions, and that is not true," said Carl Schneider, an expert in medical law at the University of Michigan Law School.

Since 1990, hospitals have been required in most states to offer all patients the chance to fill out a living will. But despite

the law and despite several high-profile end-of-life legal disputes, most people still don't have living wills.

"Enough. The living will has failed, and it is time to say so," Schneider and colleague Angela Fagerlin wrote in a bioethics journal, the Hastings Center Report.

A better end-of-life option, experts say, is to give a trusted loved one the legal authority to make decisions if you become incapacitated. Two large studies found more than 70 percent of people would prefer that doctors rely on family rather than living wills in making decisions about their care.

This has its own problems — the designated decision-maker may not understand what the patient's wishes are, and picking one person to make decisions could cause tension inside a family.

The stereotypical conflict, doctors and nurses say, comes when the adult child arrives from out of town feeling guilty he hasn't spent more time with his parent and resists steps to end the parent's life, even as a brother or sister who lives nearby says this is what the parent wanted.

Still, experts say designating someone to make decisions allows for more flexibility than living wills.

Another choice that holds less legal weight but perhaps more influence: thoughtful conversations in advance with your regular doctors.

SEE WILLS ON PAGE 27

Planning ahead for home maintenance will benefit budget

Susie Besaw, from the book "The Savvy Sailor's Spouse," is new to the military lifestyle but is eager to learn more about how to manage her family and her new lifestyle through the monthly Family Readiness Group meetings of her husband Jake's new command.

After the regular business for our family readiness group meeting was concluded, Evelyn looked for our guest speaker, Lt. Dan Dowse. He was sitting patiently in the back.

Evelyn said, "Members of the Family Readiness Group, I want to introduce tonight's speaker, Lt. Dan Dowse, commander of the Seabee Construction Battalion Unit 405. Dowse is a friend of my family's. We grew up around the corner from each other, and I'm proud to have him here."

"Thank you, Evelyn," Dowse said, in an enthusiastic voice as he walked to the front of the room.

"We are part of the 13th Naval Construction Regiment, which consists of more than 2,700 active duty and 5,700 Reserve officers

assigned to the Pacific Fleet Seabees. Our construction tasks in the Pacific range from renovating living quarters, ports and airfields to constructing major operational training and support facilities. But tonight, I am just going to talk about basic home maintenance at the request of my old neighbor Evelyn.

The average homeowner should budget maybe \$5,000 a year for their home's operational expenses, including repairs, utilities and household goods depending on their type of home and location. Why is it important we budget for repairs?"

Money U.

"Because things break," a petty officer replied. "Close," Dowse replied. "We budget for repairs so we're prepared when things break." "Isn't it hard to know when things are going to stop working," the petty officer asked.

"It's easier than you think," Dowse replied. "Just make a list of each maintenance item in your home and determine the item's life span and future replacement cost."

Dowse handed out a stack of papers. "I know my dishwasher is 7

Home maintenance schedule

AREA	ITEM	Year In Span	Life Span	Cost	Year Vendor/Referral Factor	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
BASMENT	Clothes washer	1990	14	2004	\$ 400	ApplianceRUS 356-4087		\$416		
BASMENT	Clothes dryer	1996	20	2006	\$ 550	ApplianceRUS 356-4087		\$595		
EXTERIOR	Roof	1986	20	2006	\$ 2,600	Roofers 356-2323			\$2,925	
EXTERIOR	Front storm door	1994	40	2034	\$ 200	Home Depot 356-4547				
HEAT/AC	Air conditioner	1988	15	2003	\$ 1,500	Joe Smith, Inc 356-2385	\$1,500			
HEAT/AC	Furnace	1984	30	2014	\$ 1,500	Joe Smith, Inc 356-2385				
INTERIOR	Airlic tan	1994	20	2014	\$ 150	Home Depot 356-4547				
INTERIOR	Bathroom	1994	30	2024	\$ 500	Contractor 356-7885				
INTERIOR	Basement rug	2000	12	2012	\$ 700	Carpet-Mate 356-0987				
KITCHEN	Dishwasher	1995	12	2007	\$ 275	ApplianceRUS 356-4087			\$322	
KITCHEN	Refrigerator	1995	20	2015	\$ 600	ApplianceRUS 356-4087				
PLUMBING	Hot water heater	1995	20	2015	\$ 500	ApplianceRUS 356-4087				
		1993	20	2013	\$ 500	Joe Smith, Inc 356-2385				\$541
TOTAL FUTURE YEARLY COSTS						\$1,500	\$416	\$1,136	\$2,925	\$322

Source: Ralph Nelson

Stars and Stripes

years old and the average dishwasher lasts 12 years. If it costs \$275 to replace my dishwasher this year, it will cost about \$322 in five years at a 4 percent inflation. You also can add a column and write the name of a reliable vendor next to each item. I do this to help my wife. I want her to know who to call if the dishwasher dies when I'm away repairing airfields. I was listening earlier when Mrs. Lopez said she's in the process of helping to find reliable vendors in the area for the command families, and I think that's an excellent idea."

Dowse continued, "If you do the basic maintenance plan right, it'll include anything you do home that may need to be serviced or replaced over the next five to 10 years."

"Are there any questions before I continue?"

"Having the names of vendors is great, but what about emergencies?" Peggy Lopez asked.

"You need to become familiar with some shut-offs for your utilities, like home in case of emergencies."

■ **Main water shut-off valve**
■ **Main gas or oil shut-off valve**
■ **Master electrical circuit breaker**

"If a pipe is leaking, turn off your home's water with the main water shut-off valve and then call the plumber. This will prevent damage from occurring."

"Similarly, it's a good idea to know where all the shut-off valves are in your house. Do yourself and your family a favor and review each of your appliances and sinks — whether you are a renter or a homeowner — for any shut-off valves. Knowing this may allow you to prevent a catastrophe."

"There were many nods from the audience."

Dowse continued, "The last thing I want to talk about is keys. There is nothing worse than

being locked out of your house. One thing I recommend to all of my sailors, and to you, is to keep a spare home key in your wallet or purse. Also, try to build a relationship with your neighbor so they can hold a spare key and watch out for your home when you are not there. But, for safety's sake, never write the location of the lock on any of the keys you carry."

"That's it. Happy home maintenance!"

Copies of Ralph Nelson's books — "The Savvy Sailor" and "The Savvy Naval Officer" — are purchased by writing to: Master Plan Inc., 500 N. Washington St., P.O. Box 10071, Rockville, MD 20849 or online at www.savvyonweb.com. This article is written and the book is sold with the understanding that neither the author nor Stars and Stripes are professional financial advisers. If you need advice, please seek professional assistance. The author specifically disclaims any liability, loss or risk, personal or otherwise — incurred as a result of the use of the information contained in this article or the book. e-mail feedback to finance@stripes.com

Ralph Nelson

OPINION

What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editorials are provided by The Associated Press and other statewide syndicates.

More awareness needed
Chicago Tribune

Of all the questions that patients ask their doctors, there's one that often is overlooked: How much sleep have you had? That's a question every patient, particularly those awaiting surgery or other invasive procedures, should be asking about the dramatic results of two new studies in the New England Journal of Medicine. The studies examined the performance of sleep-deprived interns — first-year doctors-in-training who provide much direct medical care in teaching hospitals. They found that the longer the interns went without sleep, the more errors they made.

Medical mistakes kill. A 1999 Institute of Medicine report suggested medical errors led to the deaths of an estimated 44,000 to 98,000 hospitalized U.S. patients every year. That study didn't delve into the issue of sleep deprivation and medical errors. These new studies help fill in some blanks, even though they focused only on the newest doctors. It would be valuable to study the effects of sleep deprivation on doctors who are well past their residency years, or even past their first year of residency. There are many reasons — medical malpractice, not getting enough sleep shouldn't be one of them.

Ohio: Love it or leave it alone
The Ironton (Ohio) Tribune

O.K. Here we are nearly a month after the U.S. presidential race was over and we're still fighting battles in Ohio — mostly caused by outsiders who feel their mission is to “fix” all of our problems. In the weeks since Ohio captured the national attention as being the ultimate “swing” state in the 2004 election, the blows to our state's credibility just keep coming.

Sen. John Kerry conceded President Bush's victory. He gave up the fight when he realized the numbers were not likely to be in his way. His concession didn't come with a disclaimer: I concede unless someone in a week or two can prove to me that in fact I did not win. Not even Kerry is that much of a flip-flopper.

If the election count was good enough to satisfy Kerry, then it's good enough for us. All you outside investigators please go home and come back to Ohio when you're more interested in counting historical sites or football scores instead of alleged voting errors that seem insignificant to us.

Canada's support not in doubt
The Florida Times Union,
Jacksonville

Way too much hand-wringing is occurring over [last week's] visit to Canada by President Bush.

After a member of the Canadian Liberal Press was seen on a Canadian comedy show grinding her boot heel into the face of a Bush doll, the worrywarts started in about how divided Canada and the United States have become. It has become another “values” debate.

The bottom line is that Canada has been a friend to the United States through thick and thin through two world wars and even in the war on terror, sending troops at least as far as Afghanistan before balking at Iraq ...

For many reasons, from abortion policies to the war in Iraq, Bush may not be a favorite among the general population north of the 49th parallel, but to be clear on this: Canadians want the same things Americans want, which is a prosperous, independent country free to determine its own policies and politics.

The way to keep their friendship is to



honor Canadian sovereignty, just as we demand that ours is honored, and to avoid hand-wringing and histrionics when Canadians (respectfully) voice their disagreements.

The right kind of CIA changes
Rochester (N.Y.) Democrat
and Chronicle

New CIA director Porter Goss is doing as he should: He's shaking to its roots an organization whose prestige has plummeted, whose failures in part opened a path for the 9/11 terrorists.

Goss understands, an uncommon thing in Washington's bureaucratic jungle, that it isn't enough for a new CIA boss or Cabinet secretary to bring in a new management team and leave the rest of the sea of middle managers alone. That ensures only superficial change. If improvement truly is the goal, then a boss committed to that end should reach into every corner of the enterprise.

Goss' shakeup has unnerved the entire CIA community. No. 2 man John McLaughlin is out. The agency's deputy director for operations is stepping down, as is his deputy. Further down the ladder, the heads of the European and Far East divisions reportedly are on the way out.

Goss' dig-deep methods seem defensible from a management standpoint. But his motives must be similarly sound.

If he's uprooting the ranks simply to get rid of those deemed insufficiently loyal to President Bush, then he's toying with the underlying integrity of the agency. ... Goss says he's engineering needed change in an agency whose performance has been substandard. It's about better intelligence, not loyalty.

Vets need healthy increase
The Walla Walla (Wash.)
Union-Bulletin

No matter how you look at the news about the budget for veterans' health care in 2005, you can't be encouraged about our nation's commitment to taking care of those who have protected us.

While it is true that the budget calls for a record \$30.3 billion, an increase of \$1.9 billion from this year, it falls considerably short of the \$3.1 billion increase the House Veterans Affairs Committee said in Febru-

ary was needed just to maintain the current level of benefits and services.

The number of veterans needing health care services is increasing as veterans from World War II, Korea, Vietnam and the first Gulf War grow older, and more veterans are being injured daily in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Does the government really expect veterans to forego treatment because it didn't budget adequately?

Congress' lack of courage to fund veterans' health care at the necessary levels cannot be allowed to hurt those who have stood in harm's way for the rest of us.

NBA brawl out of bounds
Journal Star, Peoria, Ill.

If there is one inviolable rule in sports, it's that players can't attack the people buying the tickets up in the stands. That's why National Basketball Association Commissioner David Stern's suspensions of several players involved in one of the worst brawls in professional sports history are warranted. Criminal charges may yet be, though that's not as clear-cut. The fight erupted near the end of a game last month between the Indiana Pacers and the Detroit Pistons, [after] Pacers player Ron Artest committed a hard foul against Pistons player Ben Wallace and Wallace shoved him violently in response.

Fights have long been a part of the heat of competition. But if athletes declared war on each other in the past — and we don't condone that either — doing so on fans is a relatively new phenomenon. The same can be said about fans who attack players.

There must be boundaries, in sports and life, if we are to keep living, playing and watching together. ...

There are quite a few things more important than winning or losing on the athletic field, and more of this nation's leaders need to stand up and say so, while modeling the kind of conduct to which all of us should aspire.

'Presenteism' doesn't work
Chicago Tribune

Playing in pain or sickness is the American way. Who didn't admire the World Series performance of Red Sox ace Curt Schilling, who pitched with a dislocated tendon behind his right ankle? ... Or remember the magnificent performance of a virus-weakened Michael Jordan against the Utah Jazz in Game 5 of the 1997 NBA finals? ...

So how can it be that Americans are now being counseled to stay home from work if they're sick? Yes, it's hard to believe. But lamentably, a recent Tribune article delivered the bad news: Studies suggest that productivity losses from working while sick — a phenomenon known as “presenteism” — far outstrip the costs of absenteeism. In other words, the experts suggest that we stay home when we're sick so we don't spread the illness and torpedo company productivity.

But, voices splutter across the country, that's not the American way. That sounds more like a cushy European job, with its six guaranteed weeks of paid vacation and probably more than generous sick-leave plans. ... Anyone can come to work healthy. The real loyalists are those who refuse to take a sick day. Those “experts” who suggest otherwise need to wise up.

Rather's on-air legacy mixed
The Herald, Rock Hill, S.C.

Many will say CBS anchorman Dan Rather decided to call it quits because of fallout from the story about George W. Bush's stint in the National Guard. But his real nemesis may have been irrelevance.

The day when the nation could look to three anchors on three networks for their dose of evening news are long gone. And in an environment where the influence of the remaining network anchors is dwindling, Rather has fallen to a distant third place in the ratings race. ...

Rather will be remembered not only for the botched National Guard story but also for some other odd incidents in his long career. For example, there was his reply at a press conference to a query from President Nixon about whether he was running for something: “No, sir. Mr. President,” said Rather: “Are you?”

He also vacated his anchor chair during a live broadcast to protest delaying the news for a tennis match, leaving dead air for almost six minutes. ...

And, of course, there was Rather, himself, rattling off the homespun homilies and aphorisms that sometimes were hard to decipher and, at other times, simply goofy.

But Rather also should be remembered for being the hard news reporter he claimed to be, as someone who got the story right a lot more times than he got it wrong, and as a reporter who, throughout his career, was willing to travel to dangerous spots to get the news.

JAPAN TV (BILINGUAL, SPORTS, MOVIES AND MUSIC)

SUN, DEC. 5

Morning
10:00 "Shogi" Lesson/NHK Trophy
"Shogi" Tournament (3)

Afternoon
12:00 "Go" Lesson/NHK Trophy "Go"
Tournament (3)

12:00 Alaska International Marathon
(10)

1:00 Japan College Rugby: Waseda
Univ. vs. Meiji Univ. (1)

3:00 J Cup Golf: Final Round (4)

3:45 Japan Amateur Boxing Champi-
onship (3)

4:30 Soccer: J1 League Suntory Cham-
pionship Preview (6)

5:00 2004/05 World Cup Speedskat-
ing in Nagano (1)

5:30 Auto Racing: Japan GT Champi-
onship (12)

Evening
6:00 Archeological Monuments: Peru
(3)

7:00 News (1)

7:30 Soccer: J1 League Suntory Cham-
pionship Game 1 - Yokohama F.
Marinos vs. Urawa Reds (6)

8:00 Japan College Rugby: Waseda
Univ. vs. Meiji Univ. (1)

8:40 Japan College Football: (4)

9:00 Classical Music: NHK Music Festi-
val 2004 Highlights - NHK Sympho-
ny Orchestra - "Brain's" Sympho-

ny No. 4 (conductor: Nello
Battaglia/New York Philharmonic/
Dvorak's Symphony No. 9 "From
the New World" (2)

9:00 British-U.S. Movie (1999): The
World Is Not Enough (1:54/10)

11:30 Friends (42)

1:00 ThunderBots (31/4)

1:30 Soccer: Serie A - Fiorentina vs.
Bologna (8)

1:35 Soccer: "19 Ladies' World Cham-
pionship Highlights (6)

2:05 NFL Football: K-T Dynamite
New Year's Eve Preview (6)

3:30 NFL Digest (8)

MON, DEC. 6

Afternoon
12:30 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation
(12)

1:30 U.S. Movie (1991): Flight of Black
Angel (2:00/12)

5:50 News (6)

7:00 News (1)

7:30 Soccer: J1 League Suntory Cham-
pionship Game 2 - Urawa Reds vs.
Japan College Rugby: Waseda
Univ. vs. Meiji Univ. (1)

8:40 Japan College Football: (4)

9:00 Classical Music: NHK Music Festi-
val 2004 Highlights - NHK Sympho-
ny Orchestra - "Brain's" Sympho-

TUE, DEC. 7

Morning
7:30 Oswald #52

10:25 U.S. Movie (2002): Dummy (1:35)

Afternoon
12:00 TV Series: Third Watch (7)

1:00 French Movie (2002): SWEAT
(1:40)

3:00 U.S. Movie (2002): The Rookie
(2:15)

Evening
6:00 Spanish Soccer Liga Espanola (r)
10:00 Australian-U.S. Movie (2002):
The Crocodile Hunter: Collision
Course (1:40)

12:00 Spanish Soccer Liga Espanola
(2:40)

3:00 UEFA Euro 2004 Soccer: Sweden
vs. Bulgaria (r)

TUE, DEC 7

Morning
8:00 British Movie (1980): The Shining
(2:25)

JAPAN TV (BS1/NHK SATELLITE) (BILINGUAL AND SPORTS)

SUN, DEC. 5

Morning
6:00 Figure Skating GP Series in
France (13-21 (r))

8:10 World News

Afternoon
12:00 CNN News

12:30 NFL

3:00 Men's Volleyball V-League: Sun-
gory vs. Matsushita Electric

5:50 CNN News

7:00 Soccer: J1 League Championsh-
ip: Yokohama F. Marinos vs. Urawa
Reds Game 1

9:10 BS Sports Weekly (r)

11:00 FIFA World Cup Soccer
South American Preliminary Ec-
cup vs. Brazil

31:0 X Games

4:35 Railway Adventures across
5:00 PGA Golf

5:40 Football Mundial

MON, DEC. 6

Morning
6:10 Figure Skating GP Series in
France (13-21 (r))

8:10 World News

10:10 BS World Documentary: Anatoli
Solovtsov and Palestine Liberation (r)

11:00 CNN News

Afternoon
12:15 What's on Asia (r)

2:15 ABC News

3:15 CNN News

4:15 World News

5:15 Asian News

6:15 CNN News

7:15 Asian News

8:15 NFL Denver Broncos vs. San
Diego Chargers

9:15 Asian News

10:15 NFL Denver Broncos vs. San
Diego Chargers

Morning
9:15 World News

10:10 BS World Documentary: Bhopal:
Case Number 93 CIV (r)

11:00 CNN News

Afternoon
12:15 CNN News

2:15 ABC News

3:15 CNN News

4:15 Asian News

5:15 Asian News

6:15 CNN News

7:15 Asian News

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Seahawks

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Case Number 93 CIV (r)

11:00 CNN News

Afternoon
12:15 CNN News

2:15 ABC News

3:15 CNN News

4:15 Asian News

5:15 Asian News

6:15 CNN News

7:15 Asian News

AM WEEKLY RADIO

JAPAN - KANTO

EAGLE 810

7:05 Religious Programming

9:00 Eagle 810 Sunday Brunch (Smooth Jazz)

Afternoon

12:00 American Country Countdown

5:00 A Prairie Home Companion

Evening

6:00 Focus on the Family

7:30 Travel Radio

7:00 Dr. Laura

8:00 Radio Street Caravan

9:00 Pure Gold (Oldies)

12:00 2-Rock (Alternative/Mon-Fri)

12:00 Sports Overnight America

4:00 NPR's Talk of the Nation Live (Tue-Fri)

6:00 NPR on the Media (Mon)

5:00 NPR Live on Earth (Mon)

Morning (Mon-Fri)

6:00 Eagle 810 Morning Show (Contemporary Hits)

7:00 Paul Harvey News and Commentary

7:30 Pacific Report

7:24 Paul Harvey Rest of the Story

7:58 Eagle 810 News

7:30 Zama Commander's Corner (Sat 1st Friday)

Yokosuka Commander's Corner (Wed & 4th Fri)

10:00 JMSF Chiefs' Corner (3rd Friday)

10:00 Retro Café (75s, 80s, 90s)

Afternoon

12:00 Pacific Report

12:00 Paul Harvey News and Commentary

1:00 Pacific Air Force Radio News

2:00 Top 40 Music

3:00 Traffic Jam (Current Chart Hits)

5:00 Pacific Report

4:47 AFN Sportspage

12:12 Paul Harvey Rest of the Story

Evening

6:00 from the Bench Live Sports (Wed)

7:00 NPR's Morning Edition LIVE

Yokosuka Commander's Corner (1st & 3rd Thursday)

8:00 Rush Limbaugh

9:00 Pacific Beach (Urban): Mon/Country

Thru/Pure Gold (Oldies): Wed/rock

Oldies (Classic Rock): Thu/Thru/Thru (Urban/Fri)

12:00 2-Rock (Alternative)

12:00 Sports Overnight America

4:00 NPR's Talk of the Nation Live

Morning (Sat)

6:00 NPR's All Things Considered LIVE

8:05 Car Talk

9:00 Kim Komando

10:00 Classic Rock

Afternoon

12:00 Rock Beats Weekly Top 40

4:00 2-Rock (Alternative)

Evening

6:00 Hot Jazz Saturday Night

7:00 The Touch (Urban)

12:00 2-Rock (Alternative)

12:00 Sports Overnight America

4:00 NPR's All Things Considered

POWER 1575

Morning (Sun)

11:00 NPR's All Things Considered

FM WEEKLY RADIO

JAPAN — YOKOTA

FM CABLE RADIO SERVICES (On Base Only)

3:00 2-Rock (Alternative) 90.3 FM

Eagle 810 (Variety) 90.7 FM

National Public Radio (News, Talk) 91.1 FM

Adult Rock AC (Pop) 91.7 FM

Adult Rock (Classic Rock) 92.3 FM

The Touch (Urban) 92.7 FM

Country 93.3 FM

Pure Gold (Oldies) 93.7 FM

Hot AC (Today's Hits) 94.3 FM

National Public Radio

Morning (Sun)

6:00 Weekend All Things Considered

8:00 Hot Jazz Saturday Night

11:00 Pacific Jazz

12:00 Beethoven Network

12:00 Weekend All Things Considered

1:00 Dialogue

2:30 Uncommon Knowledge

3:00 The WFMT Jazz Network

5:00 Jazz Profiles

Evening

6:00 Walt, Walt Don't Tell Me

5:00 A Prairie Home Companion

9:00 Weekend Edition Sunday

11:00 Justice Talking

12:00 Fresh Air Weekend

12:00 This American Life

2:00 Live Show with Harry Shearer

3:00 on the Media

4:00 Newsweek Radio

5:00 Weekly Edition

8:00 Rush Limbaugh

9:00 Parent's Journal

10:00 Ché's Table

11:00 Sports Overnight America

Afternoon

12:00 Adult Rock

4:00 Pure Gold (Oldies)

Evening

7:00 Hot AC

10:00 The Touch (Urban)

12:00 The Touch (Urban)

2:00 Pure Gold (Oldies)

Morning (Mon-Fri)

6:00 Morning Air Strike

6:30 Paul Harvey News

7:10 Horoscope

7:30 Inside Iwawaki Radio News

8:30 Rest of the Story

8:35 David Letterman/Leno

9:00 Country Call Up

10:00 Bright AC/Golden Oldies (Fri)

11:00 Urban Assault

12:00 2-Rock/Colden Oldies (Fri)

2:00 The Afterburner

2:30 Inside Iwawaki Radio News

2:34 Rest of the Story

2:36 Pacific Report

3:25 Paul Harvey News

3:40 AFN Sportspage

4:00 Departure Time

6:00 NPR: Fresh Air

6:30 The Show (Mon/old) School

(Thu/Thru) The Mosh Pit (Fri)

12:00 Adult Rock

3:00 Country

Morning (Sat)

6:00 Pure Gold (Oldies)

10:00 Soundbarrier

Afternoon

2:00 Rock Beats Weekly Top 40

Evening

6:00 NPR's All Things Considered

7:00 The Jim Rome Show

8:00 The Touch

10:00 2-Rock

5:00 Hot Jazz

JAPAN - MISAWA

THE EDGE - AM 1575

Morning (Sun)

12:00 2-Rock

2:00 Classic Rock

4:00 Hot AC

6:00 Sam Donaldson

9:00 Kim Komando

10:00 Religious

9:00 Oldies

10:30 Hot AC

12:00 Rock Beats Weekly Top 40

12:00 AC Country

5:00 A Prairie Home Companion

Evening

6:00 Prairie Home

7:00 Hot AC

Afternoon

12:00 AC Country

Morning (Mon-Thu)

6:00 The Rock

2:00 Classic Rock

4:00 Sports Overnight America

5:00 Rush Limbaugh

6:00 Matt In the Morning

9:00 Hot AC

Afternoon

12:00 Classic Rock

3:00 Edge of Our Knowledge

Evening

6:00 Country

10:00 Car Talk

8:00 R&B

Morning (Fri)

12:00 2-Rock

2:00 Classic Rock

4:00 Sports Overnight America

5:00 Rush Limbaugh

6:00 Matt In the Morning

9:00 Flashback

11:00 Hot AC

Afternoon

12:00 Classic Rock

3:00 Inside The Line

3:00 That Country Show

11:00 Urban Assault

6:00 Classic Rock

8:00 R&B

10:00 Hot AC

Morning (Sat)

12:00 2-Rock

2:00 Classic Rock

4:00 Hot AC

6:00 Oldies

8:00 Car Talk

9:00 Saturday Retro

Afternoon

12:00 Rock Beats

3:00 Australia Music

5:00 Kim Komando

3:00 Country

Morning (Sat)

6:00 Pure Gold (Oldies)

10:00 Soundbarrier

Afternoon

2:00 Rock Beats Weekly Top 40

Evening

6:00 NPR's All Things Considered

7:00 The Jim Rome Show

8:00 The Touch

10:00 2-Rock

5:00 Hot Jazz

JAPAN - SASEBO

THUNDER RADIO 1575

Morning (Sunday)

12:00 Top 40

4:00 Soft Hits

7:00 Religious Programming

10:00 Focus on the Family

11:00 The Environmental Show

11:00 Sports Traveler

Afternoon

12:00 American Country Countdown

6:00 Oldies Radio

Evening

6:00 Classic Rock

9:00 2-Rock

Morning (Mon-Fri)

12:00 Soft Hits

3:00 Oldies

6:00 Rush Limbaugh

6:00 Morning Drive

8:00 Newsline

12:00 "The Jam" with Nikki V. (Mon, Wed and Fri)

12:00 Urban Music (Tue and Thu)

9:00 "The Rush"

12:00 Classic Rock

9:00 Top 40

Morning (Saturday)

12:00 Top 40

4:00 Classic Rock

7:00 All Things Considered

7:00 Edge of Our Knowledge

8:00 Country

10:00 Car Talk

11:00 DJ Top 40 Show (live)

Afternoon

12:00 Rock Beats American Top 40

4:00 Australia Music

5:00 Country

Evening

6:00 Urban

KOREA

Thunder AM

Morning (Sun)

12:00 Country

5:00 NPR Weekly Edition

7:00 Bright Adult Contemporary

10:00 Australia Music

Afternoon

12:00 Sports Radio

4:00 Sports Overnight America

Evening

6:00 NPR Car Talk

7:00 Prairie Home Companion

8:00 NPR Weekend Edition Sunday

11:00 Country

HIGH SPEED HOLIDAYS

Now is the time to stop and connect to what matters most. JSpots Wi-Fi Access Cards from JENS Corporation can help you bridge the distance between you and your loved ones this holiday season.

- * Lightning fast Internet access
- * No plugs or wires for convenient, hassle free surfing
- * Get seven days of unlimited access for only \$20
- * Use the same card at all JSpots locations

Available at JENS Personal Telecommunications Centers and select vending locations. JSpots is currently available at Atsugi, Misawa, Sasebo, and Yokosuka bases.



GET IT ALL HERE. *AND GET THERE.*

Sony KV-36FS320

Experience visuals like no other with Sony's new WEGA® 36" television. Featuring a FD Trinitron® Picture Tube, Digital Comb Filter, ClearEdge VM™ Wideband Velocity Modulation, and SR50 & WOW™ Audio Effect with BBE, this tv brings you incredibly clear and vivid images and sound. You can even view your family photos onscreen with its Memory Stick® Media slot.

Reg. \$669 Sale **\$499****SONY**

Sale Price
\$429

Yamaha Home Theater in a Box**YAMAHA****Yamaha NS-P246**

This 6.1-channel speaker package includes (5) satellite speakers, a dual 5cm full-range center speaker and a 16cm multi-range subwoofer.

Yamaha RX-V1300

This top-grade AV Receiver will provide all the power and control necessary for any high quality home theatre system. It introduces the new YPAO (Yamaha Parametric Room Acoustic Optimizer), which automatically adjusts the output from each speaker for the best possible sound at your listening position.

**Canon PowerShot A95**

The phenomenal PowerShot A95 lets you take your digital photography where it's never gone before. The sophisticated 5.0 Megapixel CCD gives you the awe-inspiring resolution to create larger prints and brilliant on-screen images with extraordinary detail. Its powerful array of advanced shooting and convenience features makes everything easy. Its gleaming high-end design has a standard of style and elegance that stands out.

Reg. \$384 Sale **\$299**

Holiday Values

December 9-19
MCX
CORE BRANDS
CORPS VALUE

Great gift ideas
on sale at your
MCX Iwakuni

JVC XL-P6300

This personal CD player features 45 second anti-shock protection, CD-RW Playback, Hyper Bass sound, and 32 track programming. Its high efficiency allows 30 hour play time with alkaline batteries. It comes in Black, Blue, or Yellow versions.

Reg. \$39 Sale **\$34****Audio 4 256MB MP3 player**

Tons of versatility packed into this new easy to carry aluminum body. Support for MP3, WMA, ASF and WAV formats. Records directly into MP3 files from CDP or Walkman thru the cable. Built-in voice recorder. Listen to the FM tuner and record it by hitting a button. Up to 15 hours of continuous playback on a single AAA battery. Displays 4 wide lines of text, making it much easier to see. 124 color choices of LED backlight.

Reg. \$230 Sale **\$179****Bratz Petz!**

Here they are! Four little kitties ready to strut along the catwalk. They always welcome a nice pat on their head too. But watch out, because they're also full of attitude! Meow!

Assortment may vary, limited quantities

BRATZ**Legends of Metru Nui****Legends of Metru Nui Bionicles!**

Bionicles have arrived in time for the Holiday season. Six heroes gather the Masks of Power and challenge the ultimate foe, Makuta!

Assortment may vary, limited quantities **\$7.95****Return to the world of the dinosaurs!**

Create a mighty T-Rex with moveable jaw, head and tail. Then take him apart and build your own incredible world of dinosaurs. Includes building instructions for 9 models and ideas for 26 more creatures! Ages 7+. 719 Pieces

#4507 Prehistoric Creatures

\$29.95**LEGO****Bratz!**

Groovy girls with a far-out fashion sense, the Bratz have it all: looks, cars, makeup, and the latest clothes. With a hip line of dolls and games, the Bratz offer girls a world filled with funky makeovers, endless shopping, and lots of time for just plain kickin' it in style.

Assortment may vary, limited quantities

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they've been **serving** the military
for more than 50 years.

Since 1947, University of Maryland University College has been praised by U.S. presidents for bringing flexible, high-quality programs to the armed forces around the world. In that time, more than 1.5 million servicemembers, including flag officers, have pursued their degree or certificate at UMUC. Join UMUC today and be a part of a long-standing military education tradition.

ASK YOUR ESO OR FIELD REP ABOUT:

- ★ Which of our more than 120 undergraduate and graduate degree and certificate programs is right for you.
- ★ How you can earn credit towards your degree based on your military training.
- ★ How our military tuition rate, scholarships, and financial aid make UMUC affordable.
- ★ How UMUC's global presence means you never again need worry about transferring credits.



University of Maryland University College

www.umuc.edu/military

Air Force shakes off slow start vs. N. Colo.

The Associated Press

AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. — Matt McCraw scored 17 points and Air Force overcame a slow start to defeat Northern Colorado 63-54 on Thursday night.

Air Force (5-2) fell behind 7-0 after missing its first eight shots and hit just 37 percent from the field in the first half.

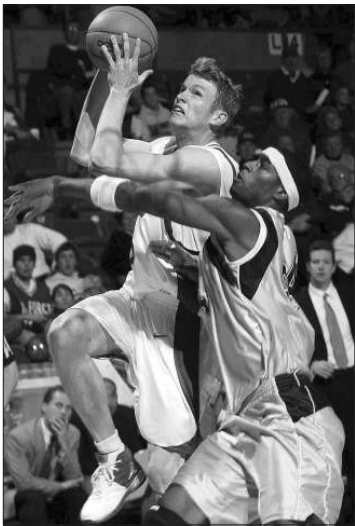
Nick Welch hit a three-pointer to give the Falcons their first lead at 13-12 and Air Force led 29-24 at halftime.

Welch finished with 15 and Antoine Hood had 10.

Sean Nolen and Erik Olson each had 12 points for Northern Colorado (1-7), which is playing its second season in Division I-A.

Nolen's 10-foot jumper late in the first half briefly tied the game 24-24.

Air Force improved to 55 percent from the field in the second half and built a 56-46 lead with 3:37 left. Northern Colorado, which shot 51 percent for the game, managed to cut the deficit to six in the late going.



Air Force's Nick Welch drives past Northern Colorado's James Randle for a basket during the second half of the Falcons' 63-54 victory.

Mississippi St. wakes up to beat S. Alabama

The Associated Press

STARKVILLE, Miss. — Mississippi State coach Rick Stansbury wondered if the Bulldogs were already looking ahead to their next game.

Then, Lawrence Roberts took over.

Roberts scored 14 of his 19 points in the second half to lead No. 15 Mississippi State to a 66-52 victory over South Alabama on Thursday night. Roberts, a pre-season All-American and last season's Southeastern Conference player of the year, also had 13 rebounds.

"They just decided for the whole game — particularly the first half — that if he (Roberts) touches the ball, someone else is going to have to score," Stansbury said. "We're going to see a lot of that all year long."

Shane Power added 16 points and Winsome Frazier had 12 for the Bulldogs (6-1), who took control by opening the second half with a 16-4 run. Mississippi State shook off an eight-day layoff and won its third straight since losing to Syracuse two weeks ago.

Mario Jontje led South Alabama (2-3) with 15 points.

Before the game, some Mississippi State players approached their coach and asked about Sun-

day's game against No. 21 Arizona in the Wooden Classic in Anaheim, Calif.

"I told them we have South Alabama to contend with first," Stansbury said.

Some Mississippi State players shrugged off the suggestion that at least once in a while, they looked past the Jaguars.

"I don't think we did," Frazier said. "But if we did, we shouldn't have."

South Alabama, which trailed by 16 with 6:23 remaining, got no closer than nine the rest of the way and had just two points in the final 3:58.

The Jaguars — who entered making nearly half of their field-goal attempts — were held to 34 percent (20-for-59) shooting for the game, and just 27 percent in the second half.

"We've got to grow up," South Alabama coach John Pelphrey said. "At times, we looked really impressive. Other times, we looked like we didn't know each other at all."

Mississippi State improved to 9-0 against South Alabama, and 39-3 in non-conference home games under Stansbury.

Mississippi State transfer Stephen Cowherd's basket gave South Alabama its final lead at 29-28 with 1:07 in the half.

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Kinnick's Rhinehart cautiously optimistic

Coach believes maturing team could have 'special season'

BY DAVE ORNAUER
Stars and Stripes

Two Decembers ago, former Nile C. Kinnick wrestling coach Scott Smith couldn't stop raving about his group of Red Devils, mostly freshmen and sophomores who oozed potential.

"Whoever coaches this team is going to have himself a powerhouse," Smith said, sounding a warning note about the team's future and announcing his planned retirement after the 2002-03 season.

That "whoever," Robby Rhinehart, brings to the state this season a group that includes one defending Far East tournament weight-class champion, one runner-up and two others who placed in the top six, plus a handful of transfers with tremendous potential.

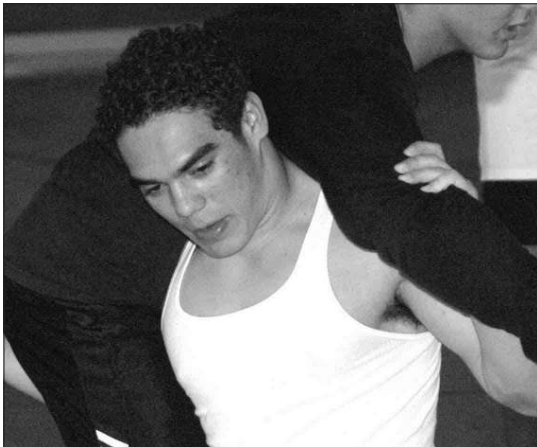
But hold the phone, says Rhinehart, in his second year at the helm after more than two decades of coaching in the States. On paper, the Red Devils might look great, but it's a long season and they face many obstacles in the person of other contending teams.

"You always want to be cautious," he said. "It could be a special season. But we still have a whole lot of work to do."

And they have a whole lot of mountains to scale before attempting to better their third-place finish in the individual freestyle team standings and runner-up finish in the dual-meet portion of the Far East tournament, Feb. 17-19 at Yokota Air Base.

To start, Kinnick must negotiate a conga line known as the Kanto Plain Association of Secondary Schools season. Last year, Kinnick shared that league title with two teams, and Rhinehart thinks the regular season could be even tougher.

"It will just be as difficult as Far East to win, if not more difficult," Rhinehart said of international school powers such as St. Mary's International, American School in Japan and Christian Academy in Japan.



JIM SCHULZ/Stars and Stripes

Nile C. Kinnick coach Robby Rhinehart is hoping to get a major contribution from 215-pound senior Adam Krievs, above, who transferred from Matthew C. Perry when Perry's football program folded in September.

Those schools won't attend Far East this year. In September, Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Pacific ruled that Far East wrestling tournaments will be limited to DODDS teams in the future, citing concerns over billing and athletic facility availability.

But DODDS and international schools will clash en masse at Kinnick's own "Beast of the Far East" invitational slated for Feb. 5. Considered in the past the major tuneup for Far East, "Some people are calling that the 'real' Far East" this season, Rhinehart said.

Even the lack of international schools at Far East won't make things easier for Kinnick.

The Red Devils have to contend with on-the-rise Zama American,

with defending heavyweight champion David Burnett and the rebuilding 2003 Far East champion Yokota, and a Kadena team spearheaded by 168-pound champ Devon Copeland that's becoming an Okinawa power on the horizon.

And of course, there's defending dual-meet champion Seoul American, with its returning 180-pound champion Scott Tunis. "I could tell how they were as a team," Rhinehart said. "Even their lesser wrestlers were just tough. You won't have an easy match with them. I don't care who they are."

Kinnick and Seoul American will likely collide at the Kinnick Invitational. "That's where we'll see how we stack up," Falcons' coach Julian Harden said.

Kinnick has what it takes to overcome the Falcons and all others "if everything plays out the way I'm hoping," Rhinehart said.

"Only time will tell. We could have returning champions in every weight class; we still have to wrestle the tournament. If they come together as a team, which we're doing, and wrestle with a lot of intensity. Those who stay on the attack [will] end up with a lot of success."

That quality helped senior Joey Wood win the 158-pound title last year; he returns at 168. Juniors Yamato Cibulka (141) and Kenji Dougherty (148) each were top-three Far East wrestlers last year.

Rhinehart is hoping for big things from 215-pound senior Adam Krievs, who transferred to

Wrestlers to watch

(School, name, year, in school, weight class, placement in 2004 Far East tournament, if any)

Japan

Nile C. Kinnick Red Devils—Joey Wood, senior, 168, defending 158-pound champion; Kenji Dougherty, junior, 141-148, defending 141-pound runner-up; Yamato Cibulka, junior, 141-148, placed fifth at 122; Alex Curtis, junior, 129-135, placed fifth at 122; Mervin Baines, senior, 148-158; Terron Yates, sophomore, 101; Adam Krievs, senior, 215; Nick Carroll, freshman, 115.

Zama American Trojans—David Burnett, senior, heavyweights, defending Far East heavyweight champion; Anthony Garcia, senior, 125, placed sixth at 122; Nick Williams, senior, 141, placed sixth at 135; Matt Bohan, sophomore, 115, placed fifth at 101; David D'Amico, junior, 148-158; Adam Godfrey, freshman, 122; Chris Johnson, sophomore, 135; Scott Mason, 122; Brandon Gilbert, senior, 141; Mark Krievs, senior, 215.

Yokota Panthers—Zach Dopszal, junior, 168, placed fourth at 158; Victor Lee, sophomore, 148; Garrett McCaw, junior, 158; Randall Peters, freshman, heavyweights.

Robert D. Edgren Eagles—Louie Lee, senior, 158, placed fifth at 115; Victor Lee, sophomore, 148; Kiko Bratcher, sophomore, 135-141; Vincent Gonnell, junior, 141; Nites Johnson, sophomore, 160-215; Brian C. Cree, senior, 158; James Donald, freshman, 158-166; Dustin West, senior, 215.

South Korea

Seoul American Falcons—Scott Tunis, senior, 180, defending 180-pound champion; Chris Feuerwald, junior, 115, placed third at 106; Dan Dovers, senior, 148, placed fourth at 141; John Crabtree, senior, 135, placed fifth at 135; Mark Smith, senior, 141.

Osan American Cougars—Aaron Clifton, sophomore, 141; Jared Reid, placed fourth at 108; James Dean Fuimano, placed sixth at 180.

Okinawa

Kadena Panthers—Devon Copeland, senior, 168, defending 168-pound champion; Gady Pennell, senior, 215; Andrew Satterfield, senior, 180; Brandon Sanford, senior, 135, won 2002 Far East 101-pound championship; Chris Beyer, junior, 115.

Kubasaki Dragons—Christian Segarra, junior, 158, defending 158-pound champion (transfers in January); A.J. Lebarre, sophomore, 129-135; Steve Courtes, sophomore, 141; Justin Villanueva, senior, 135; Willie Stroud, senior, 148; Jason Paula, senior, 141-148.

Kinnick from Matthew C. Perry, whose football team folded in September and is staying with relatives at Yokosuka Naval Base. This is Krievs' first year of organized wrestling.

"He's quite an athlete," Rhinehart said, adding that Krievs combines quickness with power and strength, "which you don't really find often. You usually have quickness or power. Not both. He'll pay some dues at the beginning of the season, but he'll do well."

Despite the obstacles, "We'll contend," Rhinehart said. "We have the talent to do it. The wrestlers we have to make the decision to have the intensity to do it."

E-mail Dave Ornauer at: ornauid@patriotpress.com



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Futema's Jones recalls seasons in Navy uniform

BY DAVE ORNAUER
Stars and Stripes

KADENA AIR BASE, Okinawa — Scott Jones knows precisely where he'll be 4:30 a.m. Sunday, knee surgery three days earlier notwithstanding. "I'll be on the sofa at home, in front of my TV with my right leg propped up," the Marine Corps first lieutenant said of where he plans to watch the 105th edition of "America's Classic," the Army-Navy football game.

The 28-year-old has good reason — he himself wore the Midshipmen football uniform for four seasons as a backup quarterback and receiver, part of the first Naval Academy graduating class in a generation to have beaten the Army Black Knights twice.

Some of his best memories, he said, of wearing the Navy Blue and gold revolve around what's considered the best and most traditional rivalry in college football.

For one, there was marching into Philadelphia's Veterans Stadium in December 1995, when he attended the Navy Academy prep school.

"That's amazing," he said. "Then actually wearing the [football] uniform and running out of that tunnel onto the field. It's like nothing else in the world."

To this day, Jones still oozes Navy football, and takes great pride in watching the Midshipmen's current success, after playing for Navy teams that went 24-2 under then-coach Charlie Weatherbie.

All his life, Jones said, from the time he was growing up in Texas to graduating high school in Chattanooga, Tenn., he had attending Annapolis set in his mind.

His entire family was football-oriented. His grandfather Willie played for Vanderbilt and flew torpedo bombers in World War II. His father Bill played at Richmond, his brothers Greg and Curt played for Mississippi State and his brother Kent is a senior at Tennessee-Chattanooga and went to Annapolis for a year.

"It had been a dream of mine since I was 8 or 9 to go to the Naval Academy, Jones said. "I wanted to fly jets. My eyesight went bad, but I still wanted to go to Navy. We'd watch the Army-Navy game every year and I always cheered for Navy. Playing football, that was icing on the cake."

Attending a service academy is a far different beast, he says, than your run-of-the-mill Division I program, in which 300-pound corn-fed bison-sized players aspire to wear an NFL uniform. Academics and military come first; football merely enhances the teamwork aspect of academy life.

"You're going to school to become a military officer," Jones said.

"You're not three days to play pro football. Playing [at Annapolis] is just another benefit. You talk about brotherhood. Your teammates and everybody who's come before you, they're your brothers. You go through all that stuff all day in school, but come 3 o'clock, it's about playing football, you forget all about that for 2½ hours and have fun."



DAVE ORNAUER/Stars and Stripes

Scott Jones, Naval Academy Class of 2000 and a reserve quarterback/receiver for four seasons at Annapolis, displays mementos of his years in Midshipmen uniform. The Marine Corps first lieutenant is assigned as an Air Defence Controller at Futema Marine Corps Air Station on Okinawa and lives with his wife, Kim, at Kadena Air Base, Okinawa.

Nothing tops the feeling of being part of the Army-Navy rivalry, with its pageantry and patriotism.

"Beating Army, especially in my sophomore year (1997, 39-7 at Giants Stadium), the first time we'd beaten them in four or five years," he said.

Perhaps the greatest memory of all, Jones said, was the 19-9 triumph in 1999 at Philadelphia, which was capped by defensive back and longtime friend John Chavis' interception in the closing seconds.

"It's my senior year, me and my teammates went through so much, you're like brothers," he said. Jones' wife of five years, Kim, saw him experience that up close and personal. The two dated from the time Scott was a senior and she a junior in high school, and she also felt the rush that Jones did.

"When they march in, when the jets fly over, when they sing their song at the end of the game, it just gives me the chills," she said. "They're the best group of guys to be around. I respect those people so much."

Only briefly since he graduated in 2000 has Jones stepped on a football field. While deployed for six months in Afghanistan, he played a game of flag football against some soldiers.

Then a few weeks ago, he was sounded out as a possible quarterback for the Okinawa Football League's Foster-Futema Bulldogs, but two snaps into his first practice, he tore his right anterior cruciate ligament, necessitating surgery at nearby U.S. Naval Hospital Camp Lester.

That surgery came Thursday, after which comes rest and rehabilitation and a cozy spot on the sofa to watch Army-Navy to reconnect with the rivalry stamped in his mind forever.

"There's nothing like it in the world. You can't describe it," he said.

E-mail Dave Ornauer at: ornaup@pstrides.odm.mil

Reports: Utah's Meyer accepts Florida offer

The Associated Press

GAINESSVILLE, Fla. — Utah coach Urban Meyer accepted an offer Friday to become the coach at Florida, according to media reports.

The Gators, turned down by Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops and Denver Broncos coach Mike Shanahan three years ago before settling on Ron Zook, lured Meyer away from his "dream job."

Meyer snubbed Notre Dame and agreed to a seven-year, \$14 million deal with Florida, according to The Gainesville Sun.

The expected hiring was first reported by The Times-Union in Jacksonville, Fla.

A university spokesman, however, denied the reports and said the coaching search would not be completed until at least Monday.

"It looks like we're not going to know anything until next week," UF spokesman Steve Orlando said. "The coaching search goes on."

Meyer met with Notre Dame officials in Salt Lake City on Thursday. The Fighting Irish fired Tyrone Willingham on Tuesday, and Meyer, a former Notre Dame assistant, became the immediate front-runner for that job.

Messages left by The Associated Press on Friday at Meyer's office and the office of Utah athletic director Chris Hill were not immediately returned.

Messages also were left at the offices of Foley and Machen and on Foley's cell phone.

Meyer has led the Utes to an 11-0 record this season and a likely spot in the Bowl Championship Series.

German rider found guilty of riding doped horse in Games

The Associated Press

GENEVA — Ludger Beerbaum of Germany was found guilty Friday of riding a doped horse in the Athens Olympics, and the International Equestrian Federation said the country should lose its team jumping gold medal.

The International Olympic Committee's executive board can now strip Germany of its medal, giving the gold to the United States.

The Germans have 30 days to appeal, equestrian federation spokeswoman Muriel Faenza told The Associated Press.

Last month, the German equestrian federation said a backup sample had confirmed the initial positive result for Beerbaum's horse, Goldfever. The rider, who has denied cheating, said the banned steroid betamethasone was contained in a skin ointment.

FEL, the international federation, held a hearing Thursday in Zurich and said it "found no evidence that the person responsible had either risked the horse's welfare or gained any advantage," and the medication was "legitimate treatment."

However, the rider failed to respect rules requiring competitors to report use of medication by team veterinarians, FEL said.

Local scoreboards

Japan girls basketball

Thursday's summary
Seoul American 67, Seoul International 13
At Yongson Garrison, South Korea

Kimick 10 511 4-30
CAJ 10 512-36
Leading scorers: Kimick, Tomika Loric 16.
Corrine Ray 9; CAJ, Kelsey Masuda 12, Amanda Johnston 8.

Korea boys basketball

Thursday's summary
International Christian-Ungbu 52,
Korea Kent Foreign 26
At Seoul

No statistics available.

Korea girls basketball

Friday's summary
Seoul American 67, Seoul International 13
At Yongson Garrison, South Korea

SIS 10 512-36
SAIS 10 512-36
Leading scorers: Seoul American, Janel Daniels 18 (three three-pointers), Ramie Gibbons 15, Garry Bakertem 8.
Seoul International, Patricia Shin 6, Tava Uana 5. Leading rebounders: Seoul American, Amy Bakertem 5, Germany Tiltan 5, Ramie Gibbons 5, Seals-Seoul American, Germany Tiltan 5.

Thursday's summary
International Christian-Ungbu 54,
Korea Kent Foreign 26
At Seoul

No statistics available.



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U.S. skiers sweep two downhill

The Associated Press

Bode Miller earned his fourth of the season wins and fellow American Daron Rahvles finished a first-ever 1-2 in a World Cup downhill on Friday.

"It's about time," Rahvles said of the Americans' performance. "It's what we wanted — both of us on the podium."

Also on Friday, Lindsay Kildow won a women's World Cup downhill at Lake Louise, Alberta, giving the U.S. team an unprecedented double victory.

Miller and Rahvles came into the season saying each wanted to win the overall World Cup title. Miller has won four of the five races so far and was second Thursday in the super-G won by Austria's Stephan Goergl.

Miller finished in 1 minute, 39.76 seconds for the 16th victory of his career, with Rahvles second at 1:39.92. Austrian Michael Walchhofer finished third in 1:40.17.

"I was flying," Miller said. "I was rolling."

When Rahvles came through the finish of the steep run, Miller and Bryon Friedman, who were seventh, stormed into the sun-bathed finish area and all three hugged, waving a big American flag for the wildly cheering crowd.

World Cup leader Miller is trying to become the first U.S. man since Phil Mahre in 1983 to win the overall title.

Defending World Cup champion Hermann Maier of Austria re-injured his right knee in the race. Austrian alpine team director



Bode Miller douses himself with champagne after winning Friday's downhill at Beaver Creek, Colo.

Hans Pum said Maier was being examined by team doctors to determine the extent of the injury. Maier, 31, missed the 2002 Olympics in Salt Lake City following a motorcycle crash in which he broke his right leg. He returned in the 2003 season, tied Miller for the silver medal in super-G in the world championships and clinched his fourth World Cup overall title.

Kildow, 20, won her first World Cup race in 1 minute, 23.4 seconds.

Carole Montillet-Carles of France, who won twice last season at Lake Louise, settled for second this time in 1:23.63, followed by Hilde Gerg of Germany in 1:23.69.

American Libby Ludovick was taken from the hill by helicopter after a fall. She was taken to a hospital, but no information about her injury was immediately available.

High wind and snow forced the women to start from a lower spot on the race course.

San Diego Chargers, NFL's biggest surprise, seeks playoffs

By Dave Goldberg

The Associated Press

The San Diego Chargers didn't expect to be leading the AFC West at this point in the season. And the Denver Broncos probably didn't expect to be trailing the Chargers in the standings.

But that's where the Broncos are, a game behind the NFL's most positive surprise, as they head to San Diego for Sunday's NFC West showdown.

The Chargers are favored by three points over a team that beat them 23-13 in the third week of the season. Since then, San Diego has won seven of eight and is riding a five-game winning streak.

Despite that, Denver could effectively take the division lead with the victory, which would give them a two-game sweep and the tiebreaker over the Chargers.

The Chargers (8-3) were in a similar position in 2002. "I know what happened two years ago," quarterback Drew Brees says. "We were sitting here at 8-4 thinking, 'Well, if we just win half of our next four games, we're in the playoffs,' and we lost four straight. I don't think that was the attitude to have."

Brees was held in such low esteem after last season that the Chargers' Philip Rivers was to be their quarterback of the future.

But their quarterback of the past has been playing so well that Rivers has been sitting. Brees, who won a free agent after the season, has assured himself of a huge paycheck next season.

NFL picks

The Broncos have been erratic, losing at home in the snow to Oakland last week. The Chargers have been consistent, especially on offense, where they are second in the NFL with 29 points per game.

Brees is third in passing rating behind Indianapolis' Peyton Manning and Minnesota's Daunte Culpepper. Tough call. ... **CHARGERS 32-28.**

Green Bay (plus 6) at Philadelphia: The Eagles are saying the right things about keeping the momentum going. They'll win the right thing, too. ... **EAGLES 31-21.**

Atlanta (plus 1) at Tampa Bay: The Falcons can become the second team to clinch a division. Kicker Jay Taylor, who replaces Martin Gramatica, keeps them waiting one more week. **BUCS 19-17.**

Dallas (plus 7) at Seattle (Monday night): Mike Holmgren is comparing his Seahawks to the 1988 San Francisco 49ers, who went 6-5 to a Super Bowl victory. Wishful thinking. ... **SEAHAWKS 21-17.**

Pittsburgh (minus 3) at Jacksonville: The Steelers are due to lose. **JAGUARS 16-14.**

New England (minus 8) at Cleveland: Bill Belichick was concerned this week that the Browns scored 48 points. He neglected to say they allowed 58. Maybe that's why offensive coordinator Terry

Robbie is Cleveland's interim coach instead of Dave Campo, his defensive counterpart. ... **PATRIOTS 58-3.**

Tennessee (plus 10½) at Indianapolis: Peyton Manning needs eight TD passes to break Dan Marino's record. ... **COLTS 27-20.**

Houston (plus 6½) at New York Jets: Chad Pennington returns to quarterback the Jets. ... **JETS 20-16.**

Cincinnati (plus 6½) at Baltimore: No 58 points for the Bengals this week. ... **RAVENS 20-9.**

San Francisco (plus 10½) at St. Louis: The Rams get to the fast track. **RAMS 45-17.**

Minnesota (minus 7) at Chicago: Chad Hutchinson is the Bears' fourth quarterback this season. ... **VIKINGS 27-7.**

Buffalo (minus 3½) at Miami: Willis McGahee has made Buffalo a lot better. ... **BILLS 20-10.**

Carolina (plus 1½) at New Orleans: Carolina is too banged up to win four straight. ... **SAINTS 30-27.**

New York Giants (plus 2) at Washington: New York's Eli Manning faces another tough defense. ... **GIANTS 3-2.**

Arizona (plus 6) at Detroit: Jon Narvare goes back to Michigan as the third quarterback to start for the Cardinals. ... **LIONS 20-3.**

New York Jets (OFF) at Oakland: Kerry Collins is good when protected. He will be against this defense. ... **RAIDERS 32-31.**

Last week: 4-12 (spread), 11-5 (straight).

Season: 84-89 (spread), 116-60 (straight up).

Spain puts U.S. team in 0-2 hole in Davis Cup finals

The Associated Press

SEVILLE, Spain — Andy Roddick and Mardy Fish lost opening matches in the Davis Cup final on Friday, leaving the United States in a big hole and Spain in commanding position to win the title a second time.

Rafael Nadal defeated the second-ranked Roddick 6-7 (8-6), 6-2, 7-6 (8-6), 6-2, and Carlos Moya opened with a 6-4, 6-2, 6-3 victory over Fish, an inexperienced clay-court player.

Spain, which won the title at home in 2000 over Australia, now needs one more victory in the best-of-five series. The Americans have won the Davis Cup a record 31 times, but have not captured the premier team event in men's tennis since 1995.

Only one team in Davis Cup history has come back from 2-0 down and won the final — Australia in 1939 in a victory over the United States.

In Saturday's doubles, American twins Bob and Mike Bryan face Nadal and Tommy Robredo. The Bryans are 4-0 in Davis Cup play and have not lost a set. If

Sports briefs
they win, Sunday's singles would pit Moya against Roddick and Fish against Nadal.

O's only no vote on move

NEW YORK — Baseball owners gave their conditional approval Friday to moving the Montreal Expos to Washington next year, hinging their decision to an agreement signed in September that did not contain a cap on the cost of a new ballpark.

Owners approved the move during a telephone conference call. The vote was 29-1, with the Baltimore Orioles dissenting, a baseball official said on condition of anonymity.

Approval was "subject to all conditions set forth in the Baseball Stadium Agreement" signed on Sept. 29 by the Expos and Washington Mayor Anthony A. Williams. That agreement called for the District of Columbia government to enact by Dec. 31 funding for a new ballpark for the team, which would be renamed the Nationals.

The D.C. Council voted earlier this week to approve funding, but placed a \$600 million cap on the project — \$195 million above the estimate contained in the September agreement. For the funding to become law, the Council must approve the measure again, and it must be signed by Williams, who favors the project.

Orioles owner Peter Angelos has opposed the move, saying a team in Washington would cut the revenue of his franchise.

Head butt ends title bout

TENGGARUNG, Indonesia — Indonesia's Yohannes Christian John kept his WBA featherweight title Friday when his bout with Venezuela's Jose "Cheo" Rojas was stopped in the fourth round following a head-to-head collision that left both fighters bleeding from their right temples.

The scheduled 12-round fight, John's second title defense, was scored a technical draw.

Appley leads by one

SUN CITY, South Africa — Stuart Appley of Australia was the only player to break 70 Friday,

shooting a 3-under-par 69 that left him with a one-stroke lead over Lee Westwood of England halfway through the Nedbank Golf Challenge.

Appley was at 5-under 139 after two rounds. Westwood had a double bogey on the 17th, a water hole, and finished with his second straight 70 at 144 total.

"Double bogeys are always a disappointment," Westwood said. "I made a couple of slip-ups today and was just unlucky on the 17th."

With the temperature reaching 97 degrees, the Gary Player Country Club course proved difficult, with British Open champion Todd Hamilton and former U.S. Open champion Jim Furyq among those unable to break 70.

Westwood and Appley had shared the first-round lead with South Africans Ernie Els and Retief Goosen. Goosen, the U.S. Open champion, shot a 71 and was tied at 141 with Zimbabwe's Nick Price, who had a 70. Els was at 144 after a 74 that was marked by a triple-bogey 7 on the 11th hole. Defending champion Sergio Garcia of Spain shot a 76 and was at 151.

NASCAR likes playoff

NEW YORK — Calling 2004 a year "of remarkable change and success," NASCAR chairman Brian France said he doesn't foresee a whole lot more change for 2005.

France, finishing his first full season as the man in charge of NASCAR after taking the reins from his father, Bill France Jr., was the architect of the new Chase for the Nextel Cup points system that put its unique stamp on this season.

Shelving the points system in place since 1975 after years of mostly runaway champions and waning late-season interest by fans, NASCAR split its season into two parts in 2004. The first 26 races determined 10 drivers who would race for the title over the last 10 races in a playoff-style championship format.

"I really liked one particular newspaper headline that said, 'It wasn't broken, but NASCAR fixed it.' That kind of said it all," the younger France noted. "The interest was tremendous, particularly the last few races."

TE Shockey sounds off about losing streak

The Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — The New York Giants' four-game losing streak and fading playoff hopes finally got the best of Jeremy Shockey.

The emotional tight end expressed his displeasure with the team in a sally 10-minute discussion with the media Thursday, during which he said team morale was "pretty low."

"I'm not going to lie to you," Shockey said. "Everyone's kind of looking around for someone else to say stuff. It's pretty bad, but we've got everything in the world to play for."

The Giants (5-6) are tied with St. Louis for the sixth-best record in the NFC heading into Sunday's game at Washington against the Redskins (3-8).

However, New York has lost five of six and has been beset by injuries on defense, particularly



the chest injury that sidelined defensive end Michael Strahan for the rest of the season.

While the defense has held together, the offense has produced little — even with No. 1 draft pick Eli Manning replacing Kurt Warner at quarterback.

Shockey, who has dropped more than his fair share of passes this season, said he has spoken to teammates about being positive. "I told a bunch of people, 'If you don't believe we're in it, walk out the door. I'll pay your salary. I don't care.'"

"I don't care how dirty you've got to play, we need a win," he said.

"We're desperate. The Washington Redskins are desperate, too."

Jets QB Pennington to start against Texans

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. — New York Jets quarterback Chad Pennington will start Sunday's game against the Houston Texans after sitting out the last three games with a strained right rotator cuff.

Coach Herman Edwards made the move official Friday, though it comes as little surprise. Pennington was listed as a questionable all week, but he practiced with the first-team offense and took the majority of snaps with the starters.

The biggest concern for Edwards was getting Pennington back into game-shape. Pennington has had no setbacks with his shoulder, and no pain or discomfort after three straight days of practice.

Pennington was hurt Nov. 7 against Buffalo after a scramble. The Jets (8-3) went 2-1 without him, winning with backup Quincy Carter and staying in the playoff race.

Cardinals' Smith upbeat about chance of playing Sunday

TEMPE, Ariz. — Fifteen years in the NFL, have taught Emmitt Smith more than just how to slip tackles. He's also learned how to fight through injury.

A day after appearing with a boot to protect his sprained ankle and toe, the Arizona Cardinals running back wore regular footgear and talked as if he still hopes to play Sunday in Detroit.

"They say two to three weeks with me and, in a lot of cases, it can be two to three weeks," Smith said Thursday. "But the things that I do to assist my body and the things we're doing inside the training room, that's the normal protocol."

Injuries can't stop Toledo's Gradowski

By LARRY LAGE
The Associated Press

DETROIT — A broken hand and separated shoulder were not enough to stop Bruce Gradowski from lifting Toledo to the Mid-American Conference title. Gradowski threw three of his four touchdown passes to Lance Moore, leading the Rockets to a 35-27 victory over Miami (Ohio) in the MAC championship game on Thursday night.

Gradowski hurt his shoulder on the first possession, but missed only one play. He injured his throwing hand late in the second quarter, and X-rays at halftime revealed a break.

Yet he returned to toss three scoring passes in the second half. "There was no way I wasn't coming back," said Gradowski, who was 18-for-24 for 251 yards with four TD passes and one interception. "Nothing was going to keep me out of this game."

Moore had five catches for 118 yards in the third three-touchdown game of his career.

The Rockets responded to the injured Gradowski.

"Everyone was like, 'Wow,'" Moore said. "It just made everyone want to play even harder because we're healthy and he's out there with a broken hand and a bad shoulder."

Gradowski joined some impressive company.

For the fourth year in a row, a quarterback threw four touchdown passes in the MAC title game. Ben Roethlisberger did it last year for Miami and Byron Leftwich did it for Marshall the two previous years.

"If he did that with a broken hand, that's a really gutsy performance," Miami coach Terry Hoopner said.

Toledo (9-3) will return to Detroit on Dec. 27 to face Connecticut in the Motor City Bowl. Miami (8-4) will play in either the Silicon Valley Classic or the Independence Bowl.

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Nowitzki, Mavs win Lone Star duel

Mavs' star wins showdown with Rockets' T-Mac

By JAIME AARON
The Associated Press

DALLAS — Dirk Nowitzki and Tracy McGrady were trading baskets and exchanging winks, each savoring their game of "Top This!"

A jumper here, a rebound there. A three-pointe matched by a driving layup. A 9.0 run for McGrady, a 10.0 sport for Nowitzki.

When it was finally over, McGrady stood at midcourt, ready to admit defeat and congratulate the winner.

Nowitzki and the Dallas Mavericks won the game of the season in the NBA this far, beating McGrady and the Houston Rockets 113-106 in overtime Thursday night.

Their one-on-one duel overshadowed the expected battle of young stars later in the night, Cleveland's LeBron James vs. Denver's Carmelo Anthony. To a national cable television audience, Dallas-Houston was just supposed to be the warmup act.



Dallas Mavericks' Dirk Nowitzki scores his 53rd point in a 113-106 OT win over Houston.

but viewers might as well have gone to sleep early because this one deserved to be savored — in contrast to Cleveland's 92-73 victory in Denver.

Nowitzki led the way with 53 points, the most ever by a Dallas player and tops in the NBA this season. He also had season highs in rebounds (16) and blocks (four), plus three steals, yet the most amazing part was that he always seemed to get them at the right time.

McGrady scored 48 points, the

second-most in the NBA this season, and had nine assists and nine rebounds, narrowly missing the triple-double of his career.

"I was by far one of the best I've ever been a part of, two of the league's superstars both putting their teams on their backs," Houston forward Juwan Howard said.

"I'm going to be telling my kids about this one," said Dallas forward Josh Howard.

Nowitzki hit his first four shots, including a four-possession sequence that saw him get rebounds on defense and nail jumpers, and knew then he'd have a good night.

Even though he missed eight of his next nine shots, he was still being productive by getting to the foul line, and his confidence never waned.

The German star opened the fourth quarter with a 9.0 run, assisted on the next basket, then scored again. He scored the first 10 points of overtime and came up big on defense too, stripping Jim Jackson on a drive to the basket and poking the ball away from McGrady on Houston's next possession.

There are some nights when the basket had a lid on it, but tonight it looked big," said Nowitzki, who finished 15-for-32, and was 21-for-22 from the line. "It was amazing."

McGrady's breakout game came following a long chat with coach Jeff Van Gundy, whose de-

fense-first approach seemed to be most smothering on McGrady. The two-time scoring champion was averaging 20.2 points per game, just 24th-best in the league.

"I understand what he wants me to do now, which is to be aggressive, the way I was in Orlando," McGrady said. "I was passive."

McGrady missed a free throw with 27.1 seconds left in regulation that could've won it. On Dallas' last possession, Nowitzki passed to Jerry Stackhouse for an ill-advised shot in the closing seconds, giving Houston one last try.

McGrady was double-teamed, so he passed to Bob Sura and he missed a three-pointer at the buzzer.

McGrady hit a three-pointer with 1:03 left in overtime that made it 108-104. A layup by Jackson with 20.4 got Houston back within four, but the Rockets couldn't get any close in losing their fifth straight.

When it ended, McGrady and Nowitzki slapped hands and hugged.

McGrady said something and Nowitzki cracked a smile.

Cavaliers 92, Nuggets 73: At Denver, James had 17 points, eight rebounds and nine assists to help Cleveland eviscerate Anthony and Denver in front of a booing crowd at the Pepsi Center.

Anthony missed seven of his first eight shots en route to a 14-point night. He finished 6-for-20 and had five turnovers.

NBA scoreboards

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division			
New York	8	1	GB
Boston	8	2	2
Philadelphia	9	10	29
Toronto	6	14	29
New Jersey	10	12	29
Southeast Division			
Orlando	10	6	24
Atlanta	10	6	24
Washington	10	6	24
Charlotte	10	6	24
Atlanta	10	6	24
Central Division			
Indiana	10	6	24
Cleveland	10	6	24
Detroit	10	6	24
Chicago	10	6	24
Chicago	2	10	16

Western Conference

Southwest Division			
San Antonio	13	3	GB
Dallas	11	5	2
Houston	11	5	2
Memphis	11	5	2
New Orleans	11	5	2
Northwest Division			
Seattle	14	3	GB
Minnesota	9	8	3
Portland	8	9	4
Utah	8	9	4
Pacific Division			
Phoenix	12	3	GB
Sacramento	10	5	2
L.A. Clippers	10	5	2
Lakers	10	5	2
Golden State	3	11	24

Thursday's games

Friday's games

Saturday's games

Sunday's games

Monday's games

Tuesday's games

Wednesday's games

Thursday's games

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Arbitrator, NBA at odds over suspensions

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — An arbitrator ruled Friday that he has jurisdiction to decide whether the brawl-related suspensions given to Ron Artest and other NBA players can be appealed to someone other than commissioner David Stern.

Mediator Roger Kaplan set a hearing for next Wednesday, ahead of the league quickly filed a declaration that Kaplan has no authority.

The NBA contends the commissioner has sole authority under collective bargaining rules for imposing discipline on players for on-court behavior.

The players' union argues it never agreed to the spirit of any rule that would give the commissioner unchecked power to levy suspensions of the length he gave to Artest (the remainder of the 2003-04 season), Jackson (30 games), O'Neal (25 games) and Anthony Johnson (five games) for fighting with fans during a wild melee at the end of an Indiana Pacers-Detroit Pistons game two weeks ago.

"Ultimately, one way or another, that issue is likely to get decided in federal court," NBA deputy commissioner Russ Granik said.



Briefs

"Our view was he (Kaplan) should not even look at it, so we didn't submit anything."

Meanwhile, the Oakland County prosecutor's office said Friday it believes authorities have identified all of the players and fans who violated state law in the brawl. Police expect to present the case to prosecutors Monday.

Anthony disavows message

DENVER — A homemade DVD shows Denver Nuggets star man who warns that people who tip police about drug deals "get a hole in their head."

The remark was apparently made in a conversation on a street in Baltimore, where Anthony grew up. In excerpts broadcast on television stations in Denver and Baltimore on Thursday, Anthony does not appear to be participating in that part of the discussion.

Anthony's agent, Calvin Andrews, said Anthony "did not knowingly participate in the pro-

duction of this DVD and does not approve of its message or content."

In a written statement, Andrews said Anthony visited with people from his old neighborhood in Baltimore last summer.

"Carmelo has never denied the fact that he comes from a tough neighborhood. He does not condemn one of the things that has kept him there and has worked very hard to rise above that difficult environment," Andrews said.

Murphy testifies in own trial

HOUSTON — Taking the stand in his own defense, Hall of Fame basketball player Calvin Murphy denied allegations that he sexually abused five of his 10 daughters.

Murphy, 56, is accused of abusing five of his 10 daughters between 1968 and 1991. He faces three charges of indecency with a child and three charges of aggravated sexual assault of a child.

On Thursday, defense attorney Rusty Hardin asked the former Houston Rockets guard whether he "intentionally and knowingly engaged in sexual intercourse with his daughters 'by touching the genitals with the intent to arouse or gratify your sexual desire.'"

On Thursday, defense attorney Rusty Hardin asked the former Houston Rockets guard whether he "intentionally and knowingly engaged in sexual intercourse with his daughters 'by touching the genitals with the intent to arouse or gratify your sexual desire.'"

Murphy's lawyers claim the allegations by his daughters, now all adults, stem from a dispute over money.

His attorneys say three of the five daughters have been trying to claim \$52,408 in death benefits left in an account belonging to their mother, Phyllis Davidson. Murphy had a 20-year relationship and four children with Davidson, who died in a car accident in 1996.

Bobcats' Wallace taken to hospital with concussion

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Charlotte Bobcats forward Gerald Wallace suffered a concussion Thursday after being hit in the face with an elbow during practice.

Wallace was taken from the court on a stretcher and taken to Presbyterian Hospital in Charlotte, where he was diagnosed as suffering a Grade II concussion, or one that results in amnesia. He will rest in the Bobcats' next game at New York on Saturday, the team said.

Wallace, who appeared to be briefly unconscious, was awoken and moving his arms and legs as he was strapped onto a backboard and loaded into the ambulance. Wallace made the team's practice facility.

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BALCO founder: Jones used drugs

Conte tells ABC he watched gold medalist inject growth hormone

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Olympic star Marion Jones injected herself in the leg with human growth hormone while BALCO head Victor Conte watched, he told ABC News in an interview for "20/20," to be broadcast Friday.

Jones also was given other performance-enhancing drugs by Conte, one of four men indicted in an alleged steroid-distribution ring. Jones' lawyers denied she ever used performance-enhancing drugs.

In excerpts released by the network of the interview to be broadcast Friday night, Conte said he started supplying Jones with performance-enhancing drugs in the weeks leading up to the 2000 Olympics, where Jones won five medals.

Conte said he gave her a substance called "the clear," later determined to be THG, EPO and insulin. He also showed her how to inject HGH into her leg.

"After I instructed her how to do it and dialed it up, she did the injection with me sitting right there next to her ... right in front of me," he told ABC.

Conte told ESPN the Magazine on an upcoming issue that Jones wasn't nervous about injecting herself.

"There was a lot she needed to know, like how to assemble it, how to get the air bubbles out of the cartridge so she didn't inject air, and how to inject herself ...," he said. "She was wearing stretch bicycle shorts, and she pulled up

the spandex above her right thigh. She dialed up the cartridge injector to deliver 4.5 units of growth hormone. I was sitting about a foot away from her as she injected the growth hormone into her quadricip."

Jones, who is under investigation for steroid use by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, has denied using any performance-enhancing drugs and passed a detector test arranged by her lawyers in June.

"Mr. Conte's statements have been wildly contradictory, while Marion Jones has steadfastly maintained her position throughout: She has never, ever used performance-enhancing drugs," said her lawyer, Rich Nichols. "... Mr. Conte is simply not credible. We challenge him to submit to the same lie detector procedure that Marion Jones passed."

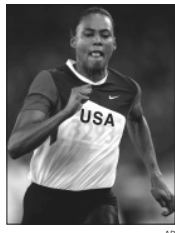
Phone calls and e-mails to Conte's lawyer, Robert Holley, weren't immediately returned.

Jones, who failed to win a medal in this year's Olympics, has never failed a drug test, but Conte said no accurate tests existed for the substances he gave her during the approximately 13 months he worked with her.

International Olympic Committee president Jacques Rogge said he was aware of Conte's accusations.

"I hope the truth will emerge," he said. "We want the truth. We want to know what happened and the more we know the better."

World Anti-Doping Agency chief Richard Pound said if it is proven



Springer Marion Jones injected herself in the leg with human growth hormone and was given other performance-enhancing drugs, BALCO founder Victor Conte told ABC News.

en Jones used banned drugs before the Sydney Games, she should be stripped of her medals.

The International Association of Athletics Federations said it would wait to see the program before commenting, but the track and field governing body said it would be up to the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency to take any action.

Conte also told ESPN the Magazine that a new drug, which he dubs "the clear III," is currently in circulation.

Conte was indicted in February by the grand jury investigating the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative. Conte, BALCO vice president James Valente, Barry Bonds' personal trainer Greg Anderson and track coach Remy Kocchanany all have pleaded not guilty to the charges.

Conte also said he developed a plan to use drugs to help Tim Montgomery, the father of Jones' baby, break the 100-meter record in 2002. Montgomery's lawyer, Howard Jacobs, declined to comment on the charges.

Conte also admitted to giving steroids to Anderson, but did not know whether Anderson gave any of them to Bonds or other baseball players.

Testimony could cost Giambi \$120M contract

BY RONALD BLUM

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Jason Giambi might have taken his final swing for the New York Yankees.

His reported testimony that he used steroids might lead the Yankees to terminate his \$120 million contract and allow baseball commissioner Bud Selig to discipline him.

Giambi said he injected himself with human growth hormone in 2003 and used steroids for at least three seasons, according to a grand jury transcript reviewed by the San Francisco Chronicle.

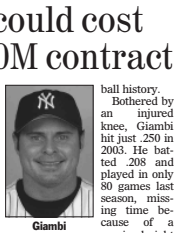
His testimony last December, before a federal grand jury investigating illegal steroid distribution, contradicts his public pronouncements that he never used performance-enhancing drugs.

Penalties for steroid use in baseball began in 2003, but testing that identifies players didn't start until the next season. While discipline is spelled out for positive tests and criminal convictions, admission of steroid use is not addressed, possibly giving Selig an opening to punish Giambi.

Selig repeatedly has called for year-round random testing and harsher penalties, but management and the players' association have failed to reach an agreement. The contract runs through the 2008 season.

"I've been saying for many months: I instituted a very, very tough program in the minor leagues on steroids in 2003. We need to have that program at the major league level," Selig said Thursday in Washington, D.C. "We're going to leave no stone unturned until we have that policy in place by spring training 2005."

Giambi, the 2000 American League MVP with Oakland, signed a seven-year contract with the Yankees before the 2002 season, the sixth-highest deal in base-



Giambi

ball history. Bothered by an injured knee, Giambi hit just .250 in 2003. He batted .208 and played in only 80 games last season, missing time because of a sprained right

ankle, fatigue and a benign tumor, which the New York Daily News reported was in his pituitary gland.

Giambi reportedly testified that one of the drugs he thought he used was Clomid, a female fertility drug that some medical experts say can exacerbate a pituitary tumor.

Giambi's agent, Am Tellem, didn't return telephone calls seeking comment.

New York still owes Giambi \$82 million, but the Yankees might be able to get out of the deal. They could argue Giambi's use of steroids violated his contract, allowing them to terminate it. Violating the guarantee language of the deal, allowing them to release him at a fraction of the remaining money, or caused him to be injured is unavailable, meaning he was paid at a time when he was at less than full strength.

"We have met with the commissioner's office today and will continue to work with them to obtain all of the facts in this matter," Yankees President Randy Levine said. "We have made no decisions and will keep all of our options open."

Asked in February whether he had ever taken performance-enhancing drugs, Giambi said: "Are you talking about steroids? No."

However, he told grand jurors he used steroids during the 2001-2003 seasons, the Chronicle reported Thursday.

Bonds: MVP sought help for arthritis, lack of sleep

BONDS, FROM BACK PAGE

"It was in the ballpark ... in front of everybody. I mean, all the reporters, my teammates. I mean, they all saw it. I didn't hide it."

The transcript shows that before he testified, Bonds was told he would not be prosecuted for any crimes he admitted as long as he told the truth to the grand jury. But if he lied under oath, the prosecutors warned, he could face prosecution for perjury. It is illegal to obtain steroids and human growth hormone without a doctor's prescription.

Faced with the same warning and similar evidence, five other baseball players who were summoned to San Francisco to testify last year denied using the drugs and that they had used performance-enhancing drugs provided by Anderson.

One week after Bonds testified, New York Yankees first baseman Jason Giambi and his brother Jeremy, both former Oakland A's, described in detail how they had injected themselves with performance-enhancing drugs. The Giambis testified they were drawn to Anderson because of Bonds' success.

Other players who admitted their use of performance-enhancing drugs were



Bonds

former Giants Armando Rios, Benito Santiago and Bobby Estallista.

The players said they had come to know Anderson because he was Bonds' trainer.

A sixth witness, Yankees outfielder Gary Sheffield, testified that while he trained with Bonds in the Bay Area before the 2002 baseball season, Bonds had arranged for him to receive "the cream," "the clear" and "red beads," which the prosecutors identified as steroid pills.

Sheffield said he had never been told that the substances were steroids. Bonds also was using "the cream" and "the clear," Sheffield said.

"Nothing was between me and Greg," Sheffield testified. "Barry pretty much controlled everything ... It was basically Barry (saying), 'Trust me. Go what I do.'"

I know I've seen Greg give Barry the same thing I was taking. I didn't see him taking those red beads, but I see him taking this (clear) and this cream here."

Attorneys for Sheffield and Santiago ex-

pressed dismay that the secrecy of the grand jury had been violated.

Santiago's attorney, David Cornwell, also said, "If any performance-enhancing drugs were ingested, they were ingested unknowingly."

Rios' attorney, Chris Cannon, dismissed the report as "ancient history." Estallista could not be reached for comment.

Since the BALCO scandal erupted, Bonds has insisted he never used banned drugs. But in statements they later denied making, both Conte and BALCO Vice President James Valente, also indicted, told investigators that Anderson was supplying Bonds with steroids, could record show.

In the addition, The Chronicle has reported that in a secretly recorded conversation, Anderson said Bonds had used an "undetectable" performance-enhancing drug during the 2003 season.

Bonds hit 73 home runs in 2001, breaking one of baseball's most storied records. He hit his 703rd home run this past season and is expected to pass Babe Ruth's mark of 714 next year. Last month, at age 40, Bonds won his fourth consecutive National League Most Valuable Player award and the seventh of his career, more than any other player.

Anderson has been Bonds' trainer throughout his assault on the home run record.

In his grand jury testimony, Bonds described Anderson, a boyhood friend with whom he reconnected in 1998, when Anderson was working as a personal trainer on the Peninsula.

Bonds said he had begun using the cream and the clear substance at a time when he was aching with arthritis and was distraught over the terminal illness of his father, former Giants All-Star Bobby Bonds, who died Aug. 19, 2003.

"I have had arthritis. I've played 18 years, had knees, surgeries and so on," Bonds testified, adding that he wanted a product that would "take the arthritis pain away that I feel in the mornings when it's super cold ..."

"I was battling with the problems with my father and the — just the lack of sleep, lack of everything."

But Bonds said he got little help from Anderson's products. Eventually, Bonds said he had "quit using the cream and the clear in the grand jury," "If it's a steroid, it's not working."

Bonds insisted he had never paid Anderson for drugs or supplements, but he acknowledged paying him \$15,000 in 2003 for weight training.

SPORTS

Bonds testified steroids use



San Francisco Giants slugger Barry Bonds reportedly admitted during grand jury testimony that he unknowingly took steroids from BALCO.



Reports: Utah coach Meyer to accept job as Florida coach, Page 43

Giants slugger admitted taking substances from BALCO, but denied knowing they were drugs

BY LANCE WILLIAMS AND MARK FAINARU-WADA
San Francisco Chronicle

SAN FRANCISCO — Barry Bonds told a federal grand jury that he used a clear substance and a cream supplied by the Burlingame laboratory now enmeshed in a sports doping scandal, but he said he never thought they were steroids. The San Francisco Chronicle has learned.

Federal prosecutors charge that the Bay Area Laboratory Co-operative, known as BALCO, distributed undetectable steroids to elite athletes in the form of a clear substance that was taken orally and a cream that was rubbed onto the body.

Bonds testified that he had received and used clear and cream substances from his personal strength trainer, Greg Anderson, during the 2003 baseball season but told they were the nutritional supplement flaxseed oil and a rubbing balm for arthritis, according to a transcript of his testimony reviewed by The Chronicle.

Federal prosecutors confronted Bonds during his testimony on Dec. 4, 2003, with documents indicating he had used steroids and human growth hormone during a three-year assault on baseball's home run record, but the Giants star denied the allegations.

During the three-hour proceeding, two prosecutors presented Bonds with documents that allegedly detailed his use of a long list of drugs: human growth hormone, Depo-Testosterone, undetectable steroids known as "the cream" and "the clear," insulin and Clomid, a drug for female infertility sometimes used to enhance the effect of testosterone.

The documents, many with Bonds' name on them, are dated from 2001 through 2003. They include a laboratory test result that could reflect steroid use and what appeared to be schedules of drug use with billing information, prosecutors told the grand jury.

In a September 2003 raid on Anderson's Burlingame home, federal investigators seized documents they said showed Bonds was using banned drugs, according to court records. Anderson was indicted in February on charges of money laundering and conspiracy to distribute steroids in the BALCO case.

Bonds' attorney, Michael Rains, said he was upset, though not entirely surprised, his client's secret testimony had been revealed.

He said he had no proof but suspected the

■ **Giambi's testimony could prompt Yankees to terminate contract**

■ **BALCO founder says he supplied sprinter Jones with drugs**

Page 47

government was the source of the leak, insisting it had been out to get Bonds from the beginning.

"My view has always been this case has been the U.S. vs. Bonds, and I think the government has moved in certain ways in a concerted effort to indict my client," Rains said. "And I think their failure to indict him has resulted in their attempts to smear him publicly."

Attorney Anna Ling, who along with J. Tony Serra represents Anderson, said a court order precluded her from commenting on grand jury testimony.

According to the transcript, two prosecutors queried Bonds closely about the documents, at times going over them line by line.

But Bonds said he had no knowledge of the doping calendars and other records that indicated he had used banned drugs. He said he had never paid Anderson for steroids and had never knowingly used them.

And he said he was confident that his trainer hadn't slipped him banned drugs without his knowledge, saying Anderson "wouldn't jeopardize our friendship" by doing that.

Bonds testified he had never discussed steroids with his trainer.

To the prosecutors, the substances Bonds said he was using sounded like "the cream" and "the clear," two steroids designed to be undetectable in laboratory testing that Victor Conte, founder of BALCO, is accused of marketing to elite athletes.

Bonds said that as far as he knew, Anderson had given him only legal products to treat the arthritis and fatigue that afflicted him, especially when playing a day game after a night game. The trainer brought the products into the Giants' clubhouse at Pac Bell Park "once a homestand," Bonds said, and that's where he used them.

"I never asked Greg" about what the products contained, Bonds testified. "When he said it was flaxseed oil, I just said, 'Whatever.'"

SEE BONDS ON PAGE 47

Broken hand, hurt shoulder can't keep Gradowski and Toledo from MAC championship

Page 45



Nowitzki scores NBA season high 53 as Mavericks overcome McGrady, Rockets in Texas showdown

Page 46



Far East wrestling features plenty of contenders

Page 42

